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CONFIDENTIAL.

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PART I.

CORRESPONDENCE

RESPECTING

AFFAIRS

IN

NORTH-EAST AFRICA AND THE
SOUDAN.

[In continuation of "Correspondence respecting the Red Sea and Somali Coast,"
January to June 1899: Confidential No. 7318.]

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TABLE OF CONTENTS.

No.	Name.	No.	Date.	SUBJECT.	Page
1	Viscount Cromer ..	140 Tel.	July 2, 1899	Suakin Agreement. Asks permission to publish terms of	1
2	" ..	141 Tel.	2*	Navigation of Bahr-el-Ghazal. Reports instructions his Lordship proposes to send to Colonel Maxwell in event of sudd breaking up and allowing boats to pass to Meshra-er-Rek	1
3	Mr. Harrington ..	38	May 26,	Mr. Harrington. Leaves Addis Abbaba on the 1st June	2
4	Consul-General Sadler	49 Confidential	June 16,	The Dolbahanta Mollah. Extent of his influence in Somaliland	2
5	Viscount Cromer ..	114	21,	Abyssinian force on White Nile. Transmits Colonel Maxwell's despatch to Lord Cromer. Abyssinians claim "Natjebai" as Abyssinian frontier	4
6	" ..	116	23,	Customs Convention between Soudanese Government and Government of Italian Colony of Erythraea. Transmits draft	5
7	" ..	118	26,	Count Leontieff's Provinces. Transmits Mr. Harrington's telegram, defining limits of	10
8	To Viscount Cromer..	84 Tel.	July 4,	Relations with Nuer tribe, and patrol of Bahr-el-Ghazal. Refers to No. 2. Lord Kitchener concurs in instructions which Lord Cromer proposes to send to Colonel Maxwell	10
9	" ..	85 Tel.	4,	Suakin Agreement. Refers to No. 1. No objection to publishing	10
10	Intelligence Division..	..	June 29,	Congo encroachments in Bahr-el-Ghazal. Transmits cutting from the "Matin"	11
11	To Viscount Cromer..	144	July 7,	Proposed Customs Convention between Soudan and Erythraea. Refers to No. 6. Approves course taken by Lord Cromer in this question	11
12	Sir E. Monson ..	155 Commercial	7,	Taxation on French Somali Coast. French newspaper's criticism of methods of	12
13	Mr. Harrington ..	41 Confidential	May 26,	Proposed Soudan frontier. Mutually agreed on, subject to approval of Her Majesty's Government	12
14	" ..	42 Confidential	26,	Proposed Soudan frontier. Reports negotiations with King Menelek on subject of	13
15	" ..	43 Confidential	26,	Question of Matamma. King Menelek anxious to retain the town	15
16	" ..	44 Confidential	26,	British East African and Abyssinian frontier. King Menelek's proposed frontier-line	16
17	" ..	47	29,	Captain Boulatovitch, Military Attaché. Reports return of	17
18	" ..	48 Confidential	31,	Sanatorium for Nasser garrison. Refers to No. 13. King Menelek has no objection to establishment	17

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

iii

No.	Name.	No.	Date.	SUBJECT.	Page
19	Mr. Harrington ..	49	May 31, 1899	Situation in Tigré. Growing serious. Ras Makunan unable to obtain rations for his troops	17
20	" " ..	50 Strictly Confidential	31,	Raheita. Russian Minister urging Menelek to demand Raheita from Italians when Erythraean frontier is settled	18
21	" " ..	51 Confidential	31,	The Soudan. Informed Menelek that the Soudan is closed to travellers, as M. Vlassof declared his intention of asking permission for Captain Bulatovitch to make same journey as Lord Lovat and Mr. Weld-Blundell	18
22	Viscount Cromer ..	148 Tel.	July 10,	Suakin Agreement. Signed the 10th July. Publication to ensue immediately.. ..	19
23	Consul Alvarez ..	9	June 27,	Political, religious, and commercial Mission to Darfur. Dispatched by Es Sennsy	19
24	" " ..	10	July 5,	Sid El Mehdy. Refers to No. 23. Decided to settle at Baghermy, within sphere of influence of Sultan of Wady	19
25	Sir R. Rodd ..	153 Tel.	17,	Dervish Emir at Kalaka in South Darfur. Ras Mangasha has dispatched two new Abyssinian flags to Gallabat	20
26	Mr. Raikes ..	141	19,	Question of Bahr-el-Ghazal. Transmits extract from "Petit Bleu" containing statement that King of Belgians was about to visit London to discuss	20
27	To Mr. Raikes ..	81	20,	Belgian commercial expedition into Upper Welle and Nile districts. Asks for information respecting reported.. .. .	21
28	To Mr. Harrington ..	28 Confidential	21,	Captain Boulatovitch's proposed journey into Soudan. Refers to No. 21. Approves language held to King Menelek	21
29	Consul-General Jago ..	11	15,	French "Foureaux Mission." Reports collision between Tuaregs and French in Air country	21
30	Sir R. Rodd ..	156 Tel.	22,	Soudan-Erythraean Customs Convention. Refers to No. 6. Italian Government accept Lord Cromer's counter-proposal for	22
31	Mr. Harrington ..	52	June 3,	Reported English expedition to Borana country. Informs Menelek that if such an expedition were taking place, all collision with Abyssinian forces would be avoided	22
32	" " ..	53 Confidential	3,	Raheita incident. Refers to No. 20. Informed King Menelek that question affected not only Italy but England	22
33	" " ..	53 A Confidential	3,	Abyssinian and British East African frontier. Refers to No. 16. Frontier proposed by King Menelek	23
34	" " ..	55	3,	Count Leontieff's province. Near Walamo	23
35	" " ..	56 Confidential	3,	South-western and southern frontier of Abyssinia. Refers to No. 16. Discussions with King Menelek and M. Ilg respecting	24
36	" " ..	57	3,	Grand Cross of Star of Ethiopia. Offered by King Menelek and refused. Leaves Addis Abbaba 4th June	25
37	" " ..	58	14,	Count Leontieff's province. Refers to No. 34. Limits of	25

No.	Name.	No.	Date.	SUBJECT.	Page
38	Consul-General Sadler	50	June 29, 1899	Shooting parties in Haud and nearer portions of Ogaden. Foreigners should obtain permission from Menelek to shoot in Abyssinian territory	26
39	" "	52 Confidential	July 5,	Relations with the tribes in and adjoining the Somali Coast Protectorate. Transmits Administration Report for the year ending 31st March, 1899	26
40	Viscount Cromer ..	131	10,	Suakin Agreement. Transmits original of. Agreement signed 10th July	34
41	" "	134	13,	Delimitation of frontier between Egyptian Soudan and Erythræa. Transmits Report giving results of Major Walter's Mission for	35
42	Consul-General Sadler	55 Confidential	16,	The Dolbahanta Mollah. Refers to No. 4. Disaffection among Habr Yunis tribes. Hostile attitude of Sultan Nur	37
43	Sir R. Rodd ..	138	24,	Soliman Inger. Transmits extract from "Temesvar Zeitung." Has obtained funds for a new African venture	39
44	To Sir N. O'Connor ..	185	Aug. 1,	Rumoured negotiations between Italy and Great Britain for purchase of Massowah. Turkish Ambassador informed that there is no truth about	40
45	Mr. Raikes ..	154	3,	Belgian commercial expedition to Upper Ouellé and Nile districts. Refers to No. 27. Wishes to establish a market opposite Bor ..	40
46	To Consul-General Sadler	73	4,	Shooting parties in Haud and nearer portions of Ogaden. Refers to No. 38. Her Majesty's Government approve proposal ..	41
46*	Sub-Commissioner Craufurd	72	July 10,	Mohammed-bin-Agil's journey from Bardera to Boran. Transmits report. Condition of the country	41A
47	Sir R. Rodd ..	140 Confidential	29,	Religious movement among tribes in Somali Protectorate. Transmits Mr. Harrington's No. 59. Efforts on part of King Menelek to capture Mollah	41
48	Consul-General Sadler	56 Confidential	22,	Importation of arms into Somaliland through Jibuti. Destined for Mollah or for Sultan Nur	42
49	" "	57 Confidential	22,	Proposed Abyssinian expedition into the Ogaden. Has informed M. Gerolimato of his objections to	42
50	" "	58	22,	Transfer of Rer Hared Fund securities in Aden Treasury to name of Consul-General of Somali Coast Protectorate. Transmits Resolution of Bombay Government in Political Department embodying correspondence	43
51	Sir R. Rodd ..	144	Aug. 4,	Abyssinian frontier. Transmits Memorandum respecting negotiations regarding	46
52	" "	145	4,	Administration of the Soudan. Transmits four Ordinances relating to	49
53	Sir G. Bonham ..	166	9,	Customs Convention between Erythræa and the Soudan. Conversation with M. Malyano	53
54	" "	168	10,	Alleged illness of Ras Mahonnen. Transmits extract from the "Italie"	53

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

No.	Name.	No.	Date.	SUBJECT.	Page
55	To Law Officers of the Crown	..	Aug. 12, 1899	Draft Order in Council for Somaliland Protectorate. Asks whether it can be submitted to Her Majesty in Council in present form ..	54
56	Mr. Raikes	165	13,	"Société Générale Belge-Égyptienne." Formation of this Company to carry out financial, &c., operations in Egypt and Soudan ..	54
57	Consul-General Sadler	58	July 27,	Mining licences in Somali Coast Protectorate. Transmits revised draft of rules for granting of	63
58	" "	59 Confidential	30,	Disaffection of Sultan Nur. Refers to No. 42. Continues in his attitude of opposition	67
59	To Sir R. Rodd	166	Aug. 18,	Ordinances relating to administration of Soudan. Refers to No. 52. Approved by Her Majesty's Government	70
60	To Consul-General Sadler	77	18,	Reported Abyssinian expedition into the Ogaden. Refers to No. 49. Concurs in Colonel Sadler's objections to ..	70
61	Sir R. Rodd	148	9,	Draft Customs Convention between the Soudan and Erythræa. Transmits M. Tugini's confirming acceptance by Italian Government of	70
61*	" "	149	10,	Abyssinian frontier. Refers to No. 51. Conversation with Colonel Collinson. Question of Kedawi, Metemmeh, and Hamran Arabs	71
62	" "	150 Confidential	11,	Abyssinian frontier. Refers to No. 61*. Petty frontier incidents in Kassala district pointed out by Italian Consul-General ..	72
63	" "	160 Tel.	21,	The Khalifa, Abdul Samud encamped two days' march west of position of. Will not attack without Government support ..	74
63*	To Sir R. Rodd	90 Tel.	21,	Captain Boulatovitch. Undesirable that he should visit the Soudan	74
64	Sir R. Rodd	162 Tel.	23,	Captain Boulatovitch. Refers to No. 63. Sirdar suggests that Menelek should be requested to prevent other foreigners from crossing Soudan frontier	74
55	To India Office	..	25,	Transfer of Rer Hared Fund securities in Aden Treasury to name of Consul-General of Somali Coast Protectorate. Proposes to approve Colonel Sadler's arrangement respecting	74
66	Consul-General Sadler	61	Aug. 5, 1899	Police force of Somali Coast Protectorate. Reports progress in matter of scheme for reconstruction of	75
67	" "	62	5,	Statement of value of trade exported to Aden from flag and non-flag ports of Protectorate. Transmits. Proposes to place police posts at Hais and Mait	76
68	" "	63	6,	Somal Coast Protectorate police forces. Proposes that Captain E. J. E. Swayne should be placed in charge of	78
69	Sir R. Rodd	154 Confidential	17,	Omdurman Intelligence Report. Transmits. Suggests that Menelek's attention should be drawn to Dejasmaich Tsamma's letter to Commandant of Zasser	78
70	" "	155 Confidential	19,	Abyssinian frontier. Refers to Nos. 61* and 62. Transmits Lord Kitchener's views on..	83

No.	Name.	No.	Date.	SUBJECT.	Page
70*	Sir R. Rodd ..	164 Tel.	Aug. 29, 1899	Attempted Mahdist insurrection on Blue Nile. Mohammed Cherif and Mahdi's two sons shot	84*
71	" ..	165 Tel.	29,	Kenana Arabs in Senaar. Refers to No. 70A. Reported disaffected. Lord Kitchener is adopting precautionary measures with a view to a movement on their part ..	84
72	Mr. Harrington ..	60 Confidential	31,	Somali Coast Railway question. Transmits Memorandum. Urges Her Majesty's Government to take some action in the matter ..	84
73	Sir R. Rodd ..	167 Tel.	31,	Attempted Mahdist insurrection. Refers to No 70*. Sirdar proposes wholesale execution of prisoners	88
74	" ..	168 Tel.	31,	Attempted Mahdist insurrection. Refers to No. 73. Disaffection among Kenana Arabs necessitates prompt decision as regards Mahdist prisoners	89
75	To Consul - General Sadler	83	31,	Reconstruction of Somali Coast Protectorate police forces. Refers to No. 66. Approves Colonel Sadler's action in matter ..	89
76	Sir R. Rodd ..	169 Tel.	Sept. 1,	Disaffection amongst Kenana Arabs. Garrisons further reinforced	89
77	Intelligence Division..	..	2,	Rabeh Zubehr. Transmits Memorandum respecting	89
78	Sir R. Rodd ..	170 Tel.	3,	Disaffection amongst Kenana Arabs. Sheikh of tribe has offered his submission at Senaar ..	91
78*	Consul-General Sadler	Telegraphic	Aug. 31,	The Mollah insurrection. Mollah has arrived at Burao, and has declared himself Mahdi. Situation serious	91
79	" ..	64	8,	Raids by Rer Ali and Rer Haroun Ogaden. Transmits copy of letter to Governor of Harrar	92
80	" ..	65	11,	General Administration Report of Somali Coast Protectorate for year ending 31st March, 1899. Transmits	93
81	" ..	66	14,	Contract for carriage of mails between Aden and the coast. Transmits completed copy of. Negotiated with Messrs. Cowasjee, Dinshaw, Brothers, of Aden	100
82	Sir R. Rodd ..	167	28,	Speech by Governor-General of Soudan on occasion of opening of Atbara Bridge on 28th August. Transmits	102
83	India Office ..	..	Sept. 4,	Hostile attitude of Mollah, Haji Muhammad Abdullah. Refers to No. 78*. Transmits telegram from Political Resident, Aden ..	103
84	To India Office ..	Confidential	4,	The Mollah insurrection. Refers to No. 78*. Requests that immediate steps may be taken to give Colonel Sadler all possible assistance ..	104
85	To Admiralty ..	Confidential	4,	The Mollah insurrection. Refers to No. 78*. Requests that a ship of war may be sent at once to Berbera	104
85	To War Office ..	Confidential	4,	The Mollah insurrection. Refers to No. 78*. Asks for observations on military situation in Somali Coast Protectorate	104
86*	Consul-General Sadler	Telegraphic	5,	Mollah insurrection. Rumours of projected move against Berbera. Has detained old relief of native infantry.. .. .	104*

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

vii

No.	Name.	No.	Date.	SUBJECT.	Page
87	To Consul - General Sadler	Telegraphic	5,	Mollah insurrection. Refers to No. 78*. Steps taken for checking movement ..	165
88	Sir R. Rodd ..	164	Aug. 25,	Coal in British Somaliland. Captain Welby reports having come across ..	105
89	Admiralty ..	..	Sept. 5,	Mollah insurrection. Refers to No. 85. Her Majesty's ship "Pomone" to be sent to Berbera ..	105
90	India Office ..	..	6,	Mollah insurrection. Transmits telegram from Resident, Aden. Mollah in force in Burao ..	165
91	" ..	..	6,	Mollah insurrection. Refers to No. 84. Coast relief of 200 men dispatched to Berbera. Further reinforcements to be sent if necessary ..	106
92	" ..	..	7,	Defence of Somali Protectorate. Transmits telegram to Viceroy. Further reinforcements to be sent if necessary ..	106
93	To Lord Currie ..	127	8,	Abyssinian frontier. Refers to Nos. 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 33, 36, 51, 61, 62, and 70. King Menelek's proposals should be communicated to Italian Government ..	107
94	To Treasury (also to India Office)	Confidential	9,	Somali Coast Railway question. Refers to No. 72. Asks for observations on Captain Harrington's proposals ..	108
95	Consul-General Sadler	67	Aug. 19,	Arms traffic in Somali Protectorate. Seizure of arms, and arrest of parties concerned ..	108
96	" ..	68	20,	Police force of Somali Protectorate. Refers to No. 66. Requests permission to arrange for withdrawal of Zeyla detachment in January 1900 ..	109
97	" ..	69 Confidential	20,	Mollah insurrection. Transmits letter from the Mollah to the Aidagalleh. Allusion to Roman Catholic Mission at Berbera ..	109
98	India Office ..	..	Sept. 11,	Mollah insurrection in Somaliland. Transmits telegram from Resident, Aden. Advance guard at Dubbur. Advance on Berbera not expected ..	111
99	Sir R. Rodd ..	Telegraphic	12,	Ali Dinar in Darfour. His loyalty to Soudan Government ..	111
100	Mr. Gray ..	..	12,	Draft Regulations for mines and minerals in Somaliland. Refers to No. 57. Approves, subject to amendments ..	111
100*	Consul-General Sadler	Telegraphic	12,	Mollah insurrection. Position of Mollah and scheme of campaign. Proposes to proceed to Aden to arrange details with Resident ..	115*
101	To Consul - General Sadler	Telegraphic	13,	Mollah insurrection. Refers to No. 100*. Sanctions Colonel Sadler going to Aden and sending recommendations thence after consultation with Resident ..	115
102	Mr. Harrington ..	62 Confidential	8,	Abyssinian-Soudan frontier. Has addressed King Menelek on subject of sending out survey parties into Eastern Soudan ..	115
103	" ..	63	13,	Expenditure of Mr. Harrington's Mission. Transmits statement showing, down to 21st July, 1899 ..	116
104	" ..	64	15,	Levy of taxes on Somali camel-owners. No orders given by Abyssinian authorities. M. Ilg's explanations ..	118

No.	Name.	No.	Date.	SUBJECT.	Page.
105	Consul-General Sadler	71 Confidential	Aug. 31, 1899	Mollah insurrection. Position of Mollah. Plan of operations	118
106	Lord Currie ..	184	Sept. 14,	Abyssinian-Soudan frontier. Refers to No. 93. Reports conversation with Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs	120
107	Consul-General Sadler	70	Aug. 27,	Raids by Rer Ali and Rer Haroun Ogaden tribes. Refers to No. 79. Action of Governor of Harrar. Dejjmach Berato appointed Governor of Ogaden	121
108	War Office.. ..	Confidential	Sept. 18,	Mollah insurrection. Refers to No. 86. Proposes that Colonel Sadler should be consulted as to necessity of taking any further military steps	121
109	Law Officers of the Crown	..	18,	Draft Order in Council for Somaliland Protectorate. Refers to No. 55. Approve	122
110	To Consul - General Sadler	Telegraphic	19,	Mollah insurrection. Are military operations still necessary?	130
111	Sir R. Rodd ..	175 Tel.	20,	Disaffection of Kenana Arabs. Necessity of attacking the Khalifa	130
111*	Consul-General Sadler	Telegraphic	20,	Mollah insurrection. Military operations as necessary as ever	131*
112	To Consul - General Sadler	Telegraphic	20,	Mollah insurrection. Refers to No. 111*. Should await at Aden decision on proposals made in 100*	131
113	" "	92	20,	Seizure of arms smuggled into the Protectorate from Jibuti. Refers to No. 95. Approves proposal to distribute a portion of reward amongst police	131
114	India Office ..	..	20,	Somali Coast Railway question. Refers to No. 72. Indian interests not materially concerned	131
114*	Consul-General Sadler	Telegraphic	22,	Mollah insurrection. Military preparations	131*
115	To Treasury ..	..	22,	Her Majesty's Mission at Addis Abbaba. Necessity of providing for maintenance of, for a further period	132
116	Consul-General Sadler	73	7,	Police Force of Somali Protectorate. Refers to No. 96. Martini-Henry rifles and carbines not yet arrived at Berbera. Telegraphed to request that action on No. 96 may be suspended	132
117	" "	74 Confidential	10,	Mollah insurrection. Refers to No. 105. Military situation	133
118	Intelligence Division..	..	22,	Mollah insurrection. Transmits Memorandum. Refers to No. 111*. Strong force of cavalry necessary	135
119	India Office ..	..	23,	Mollah insurrection. Transmits telegram from Political Resident, Aden. Military situation	135
120	To Treasury ..	Confidential	27,	Mollah insurrection. Resources of Protectorate insufficient to bear expenses of expedition	136
121	To India Office ..	Confidential	27,	Mollah insurrection. Refers to No. 119. Measures to be taken for suppressing	136
122	Treasury	..	27,	Her Majesty's Mission at Addis Abbaba. Refers to No. 115. Sanction expenses	137

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

ix

No.	Name.	No.	Date.	SUBJECT.	Page
123	India Office		Sept. 27, 1899	Transfer of Rer Hared Fund securities in Aden Treasury to name of Consul-General of Somali Coast Protectorate. Refers to No. 65. No objection to transfer being completed	137
124	" "		27,	Mollah insurrection in Somaliland. Transmits Political Resident's, Aden, of 7th September. Military situation	138
125	" "		27,	Levy of duty on live-stock exported from Somali Coast Protectorate. Transmits Government of India letter of 17th August. Consequent increase of contract rate for meat supplied to troops at Aden	139
126	Nil.				
126*	Consul-General Sadler	Telegraphic	29,	Mollah insurrection in Somaliland. Mollah at Bohotele. Occupation of Burao absolutely necessary	142*
127	Treasury		30,	Expenses of expedition against Dolbahanta Mollah. Refers to No. 120. Sanction	142
128	India Office	Confidential	30,	Mollah insurrection in Somaliland. Refers to No. 121. India Office concurs in dispatch of troops from India provided Imperial Government defray all expenses	143
129	To Consul - General Sadler	Telegraphic	30,	Mollah insurrection in Somaliland. Refers to No. 114*. Indian troops to be employed	143
130	Consul-General Sadler	75 Confidential	14,	Mollah insurrection. Military situation	144
131	India Office	Confidential	Oct. 2,	Mollah insurrection in Somaliland. Refers to No. 128. Transmits Government of India telegram relating to dispatch of Indian troops	146
132	To Consul - General Sadler	Telegraphic	2,	Mollah insurrection in Somaliland. Refers to No. 129. Treasury desire to know estimate of total local cost per mensem of victualling, transport, &c.	146
133	To Lieutenant Harold	Telegraphic	2,	Insurrection of Mollah in Somaliland. King Menelek should be informed of dispatch of Indian troops.. ..	147
134	To India Office	Confidential	2,	Dispatch of Indian troops to Somaliland. Refers to No. 128. Treasury sanction necessary expenditure on certain conditions.. ..	147
134A	Consul-General Sadler	Telegraphic	3,	Mollah insurrection. Refers to No. 132. Unable to fix estimate of total local cost of victualling, transport, &c.	147
134B	To Consul - General Sadler	Telegraphic	3,	Dispatch of Indian troops for Somaliland. Refers to No. 129. To be supplied by Indian Government	148
135	Consul-General Sadler	Telegraphic	4,	Transport expenses for Indian troops. Difficulties so great that infantry should predominate	148
136	Viscount Cromer	181 Tel.	4,	Expedition against Khalifa. Nature of force to be employed. Sirdar's proceedings should be approved	148
137	To Consul - General Sadler	97	4,	Levy of duty on live-stock exported from Somali Coast Protectorate. Refers to No. 125. What loss would be entailed on Protectorate revenues if request of Government of India were acceded to?	148

No.	Name.	No.	Date.	SUBJECT.	Page
138	To Consul - General Sadler	98	Oct. 4, 1899	Transfer of securities standing to credit of Her Hared Fund in Aden Treasury to name of Her Majesty's Consul-General in Somali Coast Protectorate. Approved by Her Majesty's Government	149
139	To Treasury	..	4,	Maintenance of Captain Harrington's Mission in Abyssinia. Refers to No. 122. Captain Harrington unable to dispense with services of two interpreters	149
140	To War Office ..	Confidential	5,	Transport expenses for Indian troops. Refers to Nos. 134A and 135. Do altered circumstances modify views expressed in No. 108 ?	149
141	To India Office ..	Confidential	5,	Proposed expedition against Dolbahanta Mollah. Refers to No. 135. Transmits Nos. 130 and 140. Suggests that departure of force from India might be delayed	150
142	Consul-General Sadler	77 Confidential	Sept. 28,	Expedition against Mollah. Reports on military situation.. ..	150
143	Sir F. Plunkett ..	194 Confidential	Oct. 7,	Ivory raiding expedition from Congo State into Bahr-el-Ghazal. Conversation with M. de Cuvelier	151
144	"	197	8,	Anglo-Congolese Convention of May 1894. Asked if that Convention is still in force ..	152
144*	Consul-General Sadler	Telegraphic	9,	Mollah insurrection. His following reported dispersed	152*
145	Viscount Cromer ..	185 Tel.	9,	Expedition against Khalifa. Sirdar authorized to leave Khartoum in command of Egyptian forces	152
146	Sir F. Plunkett ..	199	11,	Expedition to occupy Bahr-el-Ghazal. Refers to No. 143. Has not been dispatched. This does not allude to M. de Backer's expedition	152
147	To India Office ..	Confidential	12,	Transports to convey cavalry to Berbera. Regiment of cavalry no longer needed ..	153
148	Admiralty	..	13,	State of affairs in Somaliland. Transmits Admiral Bosanquet. "Pomone" instructed to return to Aden	153
149	India Office	..	14,	Dispatch of Indian troops to Somali Coast. Does section 54 of Act 21 and 22 Vict. cap. 106 apply to the case in question? ..	153
150	"	Confidential	14,	Cavalry for service in Somali Protectorate. Refers to No. 147. Transmits copy of telegram to Viceroy. 100 cavalry only required	154
151	Viscount Cromer ..	187 Tel.	14,	Operations against Khalifa. Sirdar may rely on full support from Egyptian Government..	154
152	Consul-General Sadler	78	1,	Claims preferred on administration of French settlement in connection with raid in British Protectorate. Has authorized Lieutenant Harold to disburse 5,432 rupees for compensation to sufferers. Disbursements to be treated as "advances recoverable" ..	154
153	"	79 Confidential	4,	Mollah's movements. Refers to No. 126*. Revulsion of feeling against Mollah ..	155
154	"	80	4,	Troops for Somali Protectorate. Urges reduction of cavalry and increase of infantry..	156
155	"	81 Confidential	5,	General plan of operations against Mollah. Burao to be occupied	157

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

xi

No.	Name.	No.	Date.	SUBJECT.	Page
156	Viscount Cromer ..	185	Oct. 6, 1899	Orders putting Soudan Code of Criminal Procedure in force. Transmits two ..	158
156*	Consul-General Sadler	Telegraphic	16,	Mollah insurrection. Situation improving ..	160*
157	To Sir F. Plunkett ..	119 Confidential	16,	Reported advance of Congo troops into Bahr-el-Ghazal. Reports conversation between Italian Ambassador and Sir M. Gosselin ..	160
158	India Office ..	..	17,	Cavalry for service in Somali Protectorate. Refers to No. 157. Transmits telegram from Viceroy. Can send 100 cavalry if necessary	161
159	To Viscount Cromer ..	104 Tel.	18,	Eastern and southern frontiers of Abyssinia. Mr. Harrington cannot at present make any statement respecting	161
160	To Sir F. Plunkett ..	120	18,	Anglo-Congolese Convention of 1894. Refers to No. 144. Approves terms in which Sir F. Plunkett replied to inquiries on subject of ..	162
161	„ „ ..	121	18,	Bahr-el-Ghazal. Refers to No. 143. Approves his language on occasion in question ..	162
162	War Office ..	..	18,	Cavalry for service in Somali Protectorate. Refers to No. 140. Agree to reduction of cavalry	162
163	To Consul - General Sadler	Telegraphic	19,	Expedition against Mollah. Thinks that expedition should be postponed. Operations in any case to be restricted to occupation of Burao	163
164	Memorandum by Sir A. Hardinge	..	20,	Southern frontier of Abyssinia. King Menelek's proposals audacious. Question of Boran	163
165	Viscount Cromer ..	190 Tel.	20,	Abyssinian frontiers. Proposed instructions to Captain Harrington	164
166	To Viscount Cromer ..	108 Tel.	20,	Abyssinian frontier. Refers to No. 165. Approves his Lordship's suggestions as to Mr. Harrington	164
166*	Consul-General Sadler	Telegraphic	22,	Expedition against Mollah. Force necessary for occupation of Burao	164*
167	Viscount Cromer ..	193 Tel.	22,	Pursuit of Khalifa. Reports Sirdar's plans for	164
168	Consul-General Sadler	82 Confidential	12,	Expedition against Mollah. Considers occupation of Burao necessary	165
169	Sir F. Plunkett ..	118 Confidential	21,	Belgian claims to Bahr-el-Ghazal. Refers to No. 157. King of the Belgians will do his utmost to advance commercial expedition ..	167
170	To Consul - General Sadler	Telegraphic	23,	Expedition against Mollah. Refers to No. 168. All military measures should be confined to protecting ports	167
170A	Consul-General Sadler	Telegraphic	24,	Expedition against Mollah. Refers to No. 170. Transports can be released. Assistance from Aden sufficient	167
170B	Viscount Cromer ..	194 Tel.	24,	Greek interests in Abyssinia. Is there any objection to Mr. Harrington taking over? ..	168
171	To India Office ..	Confidential	24,	Expedition against Mollah. Transmits Nos. 170 and 170A. Troops from India no longer needed	168

No.	Name.	No.	Date.	SUBJECT.	Page
172	Viscount Cromer ..	195 Tel.	Oct. 25, 1899	Pursuit of Khalifa. Whole force ordered to return to Omdurman, as Khalifa left Gedir..	168
173	To Consul - General Sadler	103	25,	Claim preferred against Administration of French settlement at Jibuti in connection with late raid in British Protectorate. Refers to No. 152. Approves his action in authorizing advance from Protectorate revenues	169
174	Lord Currie ..	203	23,	Proposed frontier between Abyssinia and Soudan. Refers to No. 106. M. Visconti-Venosta prepared to enter into negotiations as to any modification to be introduced into boundary-line of Italian sphere	169
174A	Sir F. Plunkett ..	123	25,	Belgian expedition to Bahr-el-Ghazal. Transmits "Petit Bleu"	169*
174*	To Viscount Cromer..	109 Tel. Confidential	28,	Modification of boundary-line of Italian sphere. Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs prepared to negotiate on subject. Asks Lord Cromer's opinion	169*
174†	Consul-General Sadler	Telegraphic	27,	Operations against Mollah. King Menelek wishes to co-operate. Informed that expedition has been postponed	169*
175	Viscount Cromer ..	196 Tel.	29,	Erythraean frontier. Urges that Sir R. Rodd should be sent to Rome to complete negotiations with Italian Government	169
176	" "	190 Confidential	21,	Abyssinian frontier. Refers to Nos. 165 and 166. Transmits despatch to Mr. Harrington, embodying instructions as to attitude to be observed in dealing with	169
177	Lord Currie ..	205	26,	Movements of King Menelek. Transmits report from Colonel Needham	170
178	India Office ..	..	28,	Expedition against Mollah. Refers to No. 171. Transmits telegram to Government of India.	171
179	Lord Currie ..	103 Tel.	30,	Abyssinian - Soudan frontier. Refers to No. 174A. M. Visconti-Venosta's views on	171
180	To Lord Currie ..	136 Tel.	30,	Abyssinian-Soudan frontier. Sir R. Rodd to be sent to Rome	172
181	To Sir E. Monson ..	349	30,	Claims preferred against Administration of French settlement at Jibuti. Refers to No. 152. Should endeavour to obtain settlement of claims	172
181*	Sir F. Plunkett ..	130	30,	Belgian expedition to Bahr-el-Ghazal. Transmits "Congo Belge"	172A
182	Memorandum by Mr. Jenner	..	Nov. 1,	Southern frontier of Abyssinia. Boran should not be ceded to King Menelek	172
183	Viscount Cromer ..	197 Tel.	3,	Abyssinian frontier. King Menelek hopes settlement of frontier will not be delayed by survey operations	173
184	" "	198 Tel.	4,	Abyssinian frontier question. M. Ilg may not visit Europe until Captain Harrington arrives at Addis Abbaba	173
185	To Consul - General Sadler	107	4,	Protection of wild animals, birds, and fishes in Africa. Refers to Nos. 190, 191, and 192. Somali Coast Protectorate should be represented at Conference	174

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

xiii

No.	Name.	No.	Date.	SUBJECT.	Page
186	To Viscount Cromer..	112 Tel.	Nov. 7, 1899	Abyssinian frontier negotiations. Memoranda by Sir A. Hardinge and Mr. Jenner will enable Captain Harrington to discuss Menelek's proposals	174
186*	To Mr. Gray ..	..	7,	Draft Regulations for mines and minerals in Somaliland. Refers to No. 100. Transmits proofs of three sets of Queen's Regulations. Should take Regulations for importation and sale of alcoholic liquors into consideration with a view to securing their regularity and uniformity	174*
187	Sir E. Monson ..	469	9,	Case of raid into Somali Protectorate from Jibuti. Refers to No. 181. Gave M. Delcassé Memorandum on subject of. Question referred to Minister of Colonies ..	174
188	To Mr. Harrington ..	36 Confidential	10,	Southern frontier of Abyssinia. Refers to No. 185. Transmits Nos. 185, 46*, 164, and 182	175
189	To Viscount Cromer .	234 Confidential	10,	Southern frontier of Abyssinia. Refers to No. 186. Transmits Memoranda by Sir A. Hardinge and Mr. Jenner	175
190	Circular addressed to Her Majesty's Representatives at Paris, Rome, Constantinople, Cairo, Lisbon, Madrid, and Brussels (for Congo Free State)	..	11,	Preservation of wild animals, birds, and fishes in Africa. Best methods to be adopted for	175
191	To Viscount Gough ..	160	11,	Protection of wild animals in Africa. Transmits No. 190.. ..	176
192	To Colonial Office ..	..	11,	Protection of game in Africa. Refers to No. 190. German Government willing to join International Conference in January 1900 ..	176
193	To Consul - General Sadler	109	11,	Ammunition passed through Zeyla by Ato Josef. Refers to No. 194. Approves Colonel Sadler's action	177
193*	To Sir H. Johnston (also to Mr. Craufurd and Commissioner Sharpe)	226	11,	Game Regulations. Holders of game licences to return numbers, sex, and species of game killed	177*
193†	Viscount Cromer ..	200 Tel.	12,	British detachment for Khartoum. In favour of sending	177*
194	Consul-General Sadler	84	Oct. 24,	Ammunition passed through Zeyla by Ato Josef. Has desired M. Gerolimato to request Governor of Harrar to hold an inquiry into matter	177
195	" "	85 Confidential	29,	Expedition against Mollah. Transmits M. Gerolimato. King Menelek requests that operations in interior may be postponed as he wishes to co-operate in	179
196	Viscount Cromer ..	201 Tel.	Nov. 13,	Sheikh Senoussi. Started from Kafra Oasis in direction of Bornu. Information communicated to French Agent	180
197	" "	..	11,	"Soudan Gazette." Transmits copy of issue No. 6 of	180
198	" "	202 Tel.	15,	Delimitation of Abyssinian frontier. Sir R. Rodd will leave for Rome 16th November ..	183

No.	Name.	No.	Date.	SUBJECT.	Page
199	Mr. Harrington ..	65 Confidential	Nov. 2, 1899	King Menelek. Transmits letter from. Necessary orders given concerning Soudan survey parties	183
200	Mr. Gray ..	..	17,	Queen's Regulations for Somaliland relating to mines, minerals, fire-arms, and alcoholic liquors. Refers to No. 186A. Reports on..	184
201	Sir F. Plunkett ..	225	18,	Belgian claim to Bahr-el-Ghazal. Foreign officials in service of Congo State in district of Lado Redjaf	185
202	Viscount Cromer ..	204 Tel.	21,	Movements of Khalifa. Egyptian force hope to surprise Ahmed Fedil at Dregissa ..	185
203	India Office ..	..	21,	Leave allowances and pensions of officers employed in Somali Coast Protectorate. Transmits Government of India letter of 27th July	185
204	Viscount Cromer ..	205 Tel.	23,	Ahmed Fedil. Defeated at Abu Adil ..	187
205	To Consul - General Sadler	113	24,	Draft Regulations respecting mines and minerals, use of fire-arms, and importation of alcoholic liquors. Transmits revised copy of Regulations for sale of alcoholic liquors	187
206	Viscount Cromer ..	195	15,	Sale of alcoholic liquors in the Soudan. Transmits Memorandum by Mr. Bonham Carter giving substance of Police Regulations under which sale of alcoholic liquors is placed	188
207	" "	207 Tel.	25,	Defeat of the Khalifa. His death and destruction of his army ..	188
208	" "	208 Tel.	25,	Defeat of Khalifa. Transmits summary of further details from Sir F. Wingate. Escape of Osman Digna ..	189
209	To Viscount Cromer..	115 Tel.	25,	Defeat of the Khalifa. Her Majesty's Government have received news of victory with great satisfaction	189
210	Viscount Cromer ..	209 Tel.	26,	Defeat of Khalifa. Sir F. Wingate has reached the river	189
211	Consul-General Sadler	87 Confidential	10,	The Dolbahanta Mollah. Situation unsatisfactory	189
212	Sir N. O'Connor ..	538	22,	Turkish expedition to Wadai. Transmits extract from "Maloumat" ..	191
213	Lord Currie ..	105 Tel.	27,	Soudan Abyssinian frontier. Meeting between Sir R. Rodd and his Excellency and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Governor of Erythræa. Notes to be exchanged respecting modifications of frontier line ..	191
214	Viscount Cromer ..	210 Tel.	28,	Abyssinian claims to Galabat. Sirdar reports that an Abyssinian officer has arrived in Galabat to collect taxes ..	191
215	To Lord Currie ..	140 Tel.	28,	Abyssinian frontier. Refers to No. 213. Proposed arrangement highly satisfactory ..	192
216	Deputy Commissioner Ternan	227	Sept. 23,	Congo Free State station at Tunguru. Lieutenant Bryde about to establish a. Desirability of marking out border between British territory and portion leased to Congo Free State	192
217	" "	232	27,	Lieutenant Bryde's party at Tunguru. Consists of 100 soldiers	192

TABLE OF CONTENTS.

XV

No.	Name.	No.	Date.	SUBJECT.	Page
218	Viscount Cromer ..	211 Tel.	Nov. 29, 1899	Expedition against El Obeid. Sirdar proposes. Has telegraphed approval	192
219	To Consul - General Sadler	114	29,	Game Regulations. Transmits No. 193A. Would a similar Regulation be usefully applied to Somali Coast Protectorate ..	193
220	" "	115	30,	Leave allowances and pensions of officers employed in Somaliland Protectorate. Transmits No. 203 for observations	193
221	Consul-General Sadler	88	11,	Levy of taxes on Somali camel-owners. Refers to No. 104. M. Ilg's first proposal only can be accepted	193
222	" "	89 Confidential	14,	Number of troops by which coast garrisons were strengthened during Mollah disturbances. Corrects error respecting ..	194
223	" "	90	22,	Levy of duty on live-stock exported from Somali Coast Protectorate. Refers to No. 137. Loss would amount to 5,900 rupees annually	194
224	" "	91 Confidential	23,	Employment of extra troops in Protectorate. No longer necessary	196
225	" "	92 Confidential	23,	Procedure of Gurasmach Bante in regard to an Abyssinian force to be dispatched across the frontier in pursuit of Ogaden tribes ..	196
226	To Consul - General Sadler	118	Dec. 8,	Levy of taxes on Somali camel-owners. Refers to No. 221. Concurs in Colonel Sadler's view of the matter	198
227	Consul - General de Courey Perry	4 Confidential	8,	Count Leontieff's movements in Abyssinia. Conversation with Mr. Walford	198
228	Viscount Cromer ..	214 Tel.	9,	Breaking-up of sudd. 10,000Z. given to Governor-General of Soudan for. Nature of instructions to officer in command ..	199
228*	Consul-General Sadler	93	Nov. 27,	Proposed employment of medical officers. Transmits Government of India's letter ..	199A
229	Viscount Cromer ..	202	Dec. 1,	Abyssinian frontier. Reports on parties engaged in surveying	199
230	Lord Currie ..	221	6,	Settlement of Abyssinian and Soudanese frontier. Refers to No. 213. Transmits Memorandum, giving substance of understanding with Italian Government ..	199
231	Sir F. Plunkett ..	177	10,	Congolese expeditions on the Upper Nile. Making good progress	201
232	India Office ..	..	13,	Arms traffic between East Africa, Muscat, and Mahri ports. Transmits letter from Political Resident at Aden of 27th November	201
233	To Consul - General Sadler	120	14,	Employment of extra troops in Somali Protectorate. Refers to No. 224. Approves Colonel Sadler's action in this matter ..	202
234	" "	121	15,	Situation in Dolbahanta. Refers to No. 211. Colonel Sadler's action approved by Her Majesty's Government	202
235	Deputy Commissioner Ternan	246	Oct. 10,	Lieutenant Gage and Congo Free State troops. Transmits correspondence from Captain Radcliffe, relating to unauthorized reconnaissance by	202

No.	Name.	No.	Date.	SUBJECT.	Page
236	Consul-General Sadler	..	Nov. 25, 1899	Gurasmach Bante. Refers to No. 225. Transmits note from M. Gerolimato. Abyssinian designs on the Ogaden	204
237	„ „	94 Confidential	Dec. 2,	Illicit arms traffic in Somali Coast Protectorate. Baggalow sent from Jibuti with rifles and ammunition	205
238	Viscount Cromer ..	206	7,	Cutting the sudd in Upper Nile. Credit of 10,000 <i>l.</i> opened for work of	206
239	To Law Officers of the Crown	..	18,	Order in Council for Somaliland of 1899. Approved by Queen in Council. Proposes repealing 1889 Order in Council	206
240	Mr. Harrington ..	66	Nov. 27,	Dolbahanta Mollah. Dejasmach Biratou left Harrar with object of operating against	207
240*	Consul-General Sadler	Telegraphic	Dec. 21,	Native infantry detachment at Zeyla. Ready to dispense with, beginning of February	208*
241	To Viscount Cromer ..	263	21,	Abyssinian frontier. Refers to No. 229. Approve instructions given to Major Austin	208
242	To Consul - General Sadler	124	21,	Proposed Abyssinian expedition against Ogaden tribes. Refers to No. 225. Mr. Harrington will be authorized to call attention of King Menelek to this matter	208
243	To Lord Currie ..	159	22,	Abyssinian-Soudanese frontier. Refers to No. 230. Approves course which it is proposed to follow, and terms of note to Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs	209
244	Intelligence Division ..	..	21,	Count Leontieff. Refers to No. 227. Importance of his movements south of Abyssinia	209
245	Viscount Cromer ..	8	11,	Belgian expeditions in Bahr-el-Ghazal Province. Refers to Nos. 174 <i>A</i> and 181 <i>A</i> . Lord Kitchener's observations on	209
246	„ „ ..	211	11,	Proposed expedition from Uganda to the Bahr-el-Ghazal. Reports Lord Kitchener's objections to	210
247	To Mr. Harrington ..	49	27,	Procedure of Gurasmach Bante. Transmits No. 225. Authorizes Captain Harrington to draw King Menelek's attention to matter if desirable	210
248	Law Officers of the Crown	..	29,	Draft Order in Council for Brunei and Somali Coast Protectorate. Refers to No. 239. May properly be submitted to Queen in Council for approval	211
249	To Sir H. Johnston ..	278 Confidential	29,	Validity of lease of Bahr-el-Ghazal to Congo Free State. Refers to No. 217. Situation unchanged since April	212

CONFIDENTIAL.

Correspondence respecting Affairs in North-East Africa
and the Soudan.

PART I.

[In continuation of "Correspondence respecting the Red Sea and Somali Coast,"
January to June 1899: Confidential No. 7318.]

No. 1.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 2.)

(No. 140.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, July 2, 1899.

IT is desirable that the terms of the Suakin Agreement should be made known.
Does your Lordship entertain any objection to its publication?

No. 2.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 2.)

(No. 141.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, July 2, 1899.

COLONEL MAXWELL inquires if there are any particular steps he is to take in the event of the sudd in the Bahr-el-Ghazal breaking up and allowing boats to pass to Meshra-er-Rek. This might happen, he says, any day. He is not in favour of establishing a port there, as the number of steamers is limited, and communication difficult, but suggests that, when the passage is practicable, one of the Fashoda gun-boats might patrol that district. Every available steamer will be required for bringing up supplies as soon as there is enough water in the river for them to get through the cataracts, as previous calculations have been disappointed by the delay in bringing the railway to the south of the rapids.

It would be advisable to ask the Sirdar's opinion, but I propose to instruct Colonel Maxwell to do all he can to establish friendly relations with the Nuers, and to confine himself to patrolling.

No. 3.

Mr. Harrington to Viscount Cromer.—(Received at Foreign Office, July 3.)

(No. 38.)

My Lord,

Addis Abbaba, May 26, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your Lordship's information, that, for the reasons given in my telegram No. 7 of to-day, I leave here on the 1st June.

I have the honour to request that any orders for me may be sent so as to meet me on arrival at the coast about the 7th July.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. L. HARRINGTON.

No. 4.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 3.)

(No. 49. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Camp, Oodweina, June 16, 1899.

LEAVING Sheikh on the 6th instant, I proceeded to Wissil on the tug "Der" about half-way between Warren and Burao, where I halted three days. I then struck to the west to reach Syk via Oodweina.

The larger sections of the Habr Yunis are now grazing their flocks on the south of the waterless Arori Plain and the Haud, this portion of their country being occupied by the Mahomed Aysa and Adan Aysa sections of the Habr Awal, who move on to the lands vacated by the Habr Yunis in their annual migration to the Haud. Intermixed with the Habr Awal now here are some of the smaller sections of the Habr Yunis who inhabit the hilly tracts of the Golis.

The attitude of the Habr Yunis is unsatisfactory. One half of the tribe have come under the influence of the Mullah Muhammad Abdullah, principally the Musa Ismail, Musa Arrah, Rer Ainasha, Rer Weid, and Abdi Hirsi, with Madar Hirsi and his following of the Rer Segullah and the Ba Deria. Some of these were so from the first.

These sections all occupy the eastern portion of the Habr Yunis country towards its borders, with the Habr Toljaala and the Dolbahanta. The rest of the tribe have not yet been affected by this movement. But few of the smaller sections of the Habr Yunis through whom I passed came to my camp, fearing to do so till the larger sections had declared themselves. I noticed the same hesitation on the part of the Habr Awal tribes now in the Habr Yunis country; these, though quite loyal to us, openly said that they were afraid of the Habr Yunis. Only one section, the Rer Weis, sent in a full deputation of twenty-five Elders.

The Mullah's influence may now be said to extend to a line drawn north and south through Hahiya, a Mullah village about 10 miles to the south-west of this camp. South of the Golis and east of this line the country is with the Mullah. West of this line the tribes are either against him or as yet unaffected by the movement.

Mullah Muhammad Abdullah has made no further move, and I have no further information as to his possible intentions. He is now at Bohotele, where he was for a time laid up with fever, brought on during his expedition against the Mahmood Girad. This expedition was not the success previous reports had made it out to be. He obtained no restitution of looted property, and his party was attacked, losing one man killed and several wounded. The horses he brought back were given him by some of the nearer sections of the tribe who had looted them from their neighbours. Sultan Nur is still with him, but is said to be soon returning to his country, when I shall take as early an opportunity as possible of coming to an understanding with him. Outwardly the country is quiet, despite reports of intended movements by one tribe against another, which are always rife in Somaliland.

All those who have been attracted to the Mullah call themselves Dervishes, and give out that they "do not want the Government." They further designate those who do not join them as Kaffirs, which has naturally aroused the indignation of the rival religious sects.

I believe that in all this, especially as regards most of the Habr Yunis, there is a good deal of mere talk. The question of religion, so far as the tribes are concerned, has

little to do with the present movement. The Somali, though a devout follower of his religion, is not a good subject for a fanatical rising, and those who have declared themselves as the Mullah's adherents, or have otherwise gone to him, have done so mostly either to serve their own ends or through fear of coercion.

For instance, Sultan Nur repaired to the Mullah because the latter had originally declared Madar Hirsi as Sultan of his tribe. Nur has further a claim for blood-money against the Ogaden, which he hopes to recover through the Mullah's influence. The Musa Ismail have been prohibited by us from making reprisals on the Rer Benin section of the Habr Toljaala on account of certain loots, the compensation for which has been fixed at Berbera, but which the Rer Benin have been backward in paying up.

Similarly, other tribes, such as the Rer Ainasha, against whom there are old outstandings, find this a convenient opportunity for temporarily releasing themselves from their obligations.

At the bottom of all is the pernicious influence of this Mullah, who seeks to undermine our authority with the tribes, and impose his own, for what I cannot but consider political rather than religious motives.

The field is certainly open for such a movement as this. We have hitherto only occupied the coast towns, and depended for the exercise of our authority in the interior in such matters as we have found it necessary to interfere in either on pressure brought to bear on the tribes in their dealings with the coast towns during the trading season, or by occasional punitive expeditions, which in each case have produced an excellent effect for two or three years.

Two great results have been achieved by our Administration under this system. Order and quiet have been established in the Guban, the tract between the Golis and the sea, and the tribes inland have learnt to respect the sanctity of the caravan routes. But we have no effective Administration beyond a radius of a few miles from our coast towns.

What we require to do is to gradually extend the influence and authority we have acquired over the Habr Awal to the tribes in the interior in the order of their accessibility to our reach, and this is now rendered the more difficult by the agitation which has lately sprung up from the Dolbahanta.

Our action will have to depend in a great measure on how events declare themselves. If an openly hostile move is made by the Mullah, which I do not at present anticipate, this will have to be met by force. Should no such move be made, and it be decided that operations in the Dolbahanta are not worth the risk and cost, we shall have to deal with the tribes nearest us who may continue to defy authority by closing our ports against them, and, where necessary, by punitive expeditions.

It is noticeable that this movement commenced at the close of the trading season, and has been in progress at a time when the tribes are mostly independent of us and the ports, and when they are at a distance in the interior and out of our reach. In another two or three months the condition of affairs will be altered, the grazing to the south will be exhausted, the tribes will move back, and will at once become dependent on our coast towns for their supplies and the sale of their produce, and I quite expect that many of the sections who are undoubtedly now with the Mullah, and are said to be disaffected with our rule, will send their caravans as usual to Berbera, and want to know what they have done against the Administration.

Next to the Habr Awal on this side naturally come the Habr Yunis. I have already noted what their present attitude is, and for which the bad example of Sultan Nur is in some measure responsible; what it will be in the near future will much depend on Sultan Nur's behaviour on his return to this tribe. I should say he is not likely to declare himself against us; if he does, he will have to be brought to reason. He is far more likely to steer a middle course, and try and keep in with us and the Mullah, if he does not throw the latter over.

The question of interior posts on this side is one which I have not yet taken up, wishing to personally see the country before making any proposals.

Burao offers a position of considerable strategical importance. It is close to the borders of the Habr Toljaala, the Dolbahanta, and the Habr Yunis; it commands the principal water supply of the latter tribe in the dry season, as well as that of the adjacent Habr Toljaala and Dolbahanta tribes. Later on it will be an excellent place to locate a British officer, with an escort, to control the surrounding tribes, but under present circumstances it is too far removed from the coast to be safely used as an outpost. Occupied now in force it would have a controlling effect on the present situation.

When our police are trained and armed, a commencement might be made by occupying the principal passes leading through the Golis to Berbera by foot and mounted police, and thus accustoming the tribes to the visible signs of our presence outside the coast towns. I will offer further suggestions when the intentions of the Mullah and the attitude of Sultan Nur and the Habr Yunis are more definitely known.

Yesterday, Haji Musa, the Head of the Mullah community of Hahiya, which I had visited in the morning, came into my camp on his way back from the Haj. He is the principal Mullah of the Habr Yunis; his sect is opposed to that of the Dolbahanta Mullah, and I had previously received a letter from him strongly protesting against the trouble the latter is causing in the country. I had a long private conversation with this Mullah who talks Arabic fluently, and who struck me as being a man of more than ordinary intelligence and education. He told me he wished to do all in his power to help the Administration in counteracting the influence of Mullah Muhammad Abdullah, especially with the Habr Yunis, and to this end he had already sent several of the Mullahs who had returned with him from Mecca direct to the tribes on his way to Hahiya. With regard to Mecca he assured me that no assistance was being given from that quarter to the movement in the Dolbahanta, which he said was solely instigated by Muhammad Abdullah, whom he described as a religious madman. His object, he said, was to unite the tribes so as to exercise his authority over them and, in fact, rule over the Highlands. Designs against the Abyssinians were, he thought, a mere pretence, though these might enter into his scheme if he found himself strong enough.

Haji Musa told me he would immediately go round the tribes himself, and assured me of his best endeavours to bring them round.

As I knew, he had some requests of his own to make, and with these I decided to comply, knowing him to be possessed of influence which I think can be usefully employed.

I granted him a personal allowance of 30 rupees per mensem, the continuance of which will depend on his exerting himself in the direction indicated. I further promised him 150 rupees towards the construction of a masonry well he is anxious to dig in his village, the site of which I had previously inspected. I was willing to encourage the construction of this well, as there is a considerable tract of land in irregular patches round the village under Jowari cultivation, which is entirely dependent on the rainfall. A well will be useful for irrigation purposes, as well as for supplying the community, which numbers some 300 souls, with drinking water, which has now to be brought for the best part of the year from the river bed at Oodweina. The first sum will be met from the unallotted balance of the Budget allotment for Berbera Akils, the second from my Budget allotment for Durbar presents.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

N.B.—A copy of this despatch is being sent to Cairo.

J. H. S.

No. 5.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 3.)

(No. 114.)

My Lord,

Cairo, June 21, 1899.

WITH reference to previous telegraphic correspondence on the subject of the Abyssinian force on the White Nile, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a despatch which I have received from Colonel Maxwell, inclosing translation of the letter addressed by Dejazmatch Tesamma to the Commandant at Nasser, claiming "Natjebai" as the Abyssinian frontier.

I understand that Natjebai is the Abyssinian name for the White Nile.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CROMER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 5.

Colonel Maxwell to Viscount Cromer.

My Lord,

Omdurman, June 9, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith a translation of a letter brought into Nasser Fort on the Sobat River on the 29th April last.

A civil answer was returned to the Abyssinian General, saying that the letter was duly received and would be forwarded to the Governor-General at Omdurman.

With this letter were two others written in Arabic, and, though they evidently were copies of the Abyssinian letter, the Arabic was undecypherable.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. G. MAXWELL, *Miralai.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 5.

Letter received at Nasser, dated about March 19, 1899.

(Translation.)

FROM Dejazmatch Tesamma to the English Governor at Nasser and Sobat :—
After salutations.

I hope you are well; thanks to God, we are all well.

I have heard of your arrival at Nasser and Sobat, but I want to tell you that my Emperor has sent me to Khor Bajora, where I am now, and that the Abyssinian frontier extends as far as Natjebai on the Nile, where the Abyssinian flag was hoisted by me a year ago, and I reached the said place after great trouble and lost 1,345 of my men, and after I hoisted the flag I returned to Goré, my head-quarters.

Now you have come to Sobat and Nasser, and as there is nothing between our Empires but friendship, I want to tell you that our frontier is Natjebai, and, therefore, you have no right to go beyond it, and all the Powers know this; and now that you have gone beyond it, I should like to know why you have occupied the places where you now are. Is it for peace, war, or for seeing the place only? 'This is what I want to know. If you have come for the purpose of seeing the country only, I have no objection to your coming further, as nothing but friendship exists between our Empires; but if your intention is to occupy the country, please let my Emperor and myself know. I wish you to tell me the truth without deceit.

No. 6.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 3.)

(No. 116.)

My Lord,

Cairo, June 23, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to inclose (Inclosure 1) a translation of a draft Customs Convention between the Soudanese Government and the Government of the Italian Colony of Erythræa, which was handed to me a short time ago by M. Tugini, the Italian Consul-General.

The proposals set forth in this draft are of a nature to render it probable that a satisfactory solution of this question will shortly be found.

Several points of detail were, however, omitted from the Italian proposals. I, therefore, prepared a counter-proposal (Inclosure 2) which, together with the accompanying *aide-mémoire* (Inclosure 3) I have handed to M. Tugini. This amended draft does not differ in any important particular from the Italian proposals.

I have ventured to send copies of Inclosures 1, 2, and 3, of this despatch direct to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Rome.

A question has arisen as to who should ultimately sign the Convention on the Anglo-Egyptian side. The alternative lies between the Egyptian Minister for Foreign Affairs and myself on the one hand, or the Governor-General of the Soudan (or some one acting on his behalf) on the other hand.

The Egyptian Minister for Foreign Affairs informs me that, as the best way of obviating any possible objections on the part of the Porte, he would prefer that the Convention should be signed by the Governor-General of the Soudan. I propose, therefore, subject to your Lordship's approval, to adopt the latter course.

When the Convention is signed, the last of the various arrangements having for their object the establishing of satisfactory relations between the Government of the Soudan and that of the Italian Colony of Erythræa will have been concluded. The settlement of many of the questions involved has been greatly facilitated by the judgment and ability shown by Colonel Parsons, who, when Governor of Suakin, conducted negotiations of some difficulty with M. de Martini, the Governor-General of the Erythræa Colony.

I venture to bring to your Lordship's favourable notice the valuable nature of the services performed by Colonel Parsons in this connection.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CROMER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 6.

Italian Draft of Customs Convention between the Soudan and Erythræa.

(Translation.)

ARTICLE I.

AS a general rule, goods coming from the Colony of Erythræa and destined for consumption in the Anglo-Egyptian territory of the Soudan, will be subject, on entry into that territory, to a duty not exceeding that exacted under the Egyptian tariff.

ARTICLE II.

Goods which are proved to be of *bond fide* local Erythræan production shall benefit by a reduction in custom dues of 3 per cent. on entering the Soudan.

ARTICLE III.

Tobacco, arms, and ammunition shall be excepted from the treatment laid down in the preceding Article. Gum, india-rubber, ivory, and ostrich feathers shall, as local Erythræan produce, pay, on their entry into the Soudan, the importation dues as laid down in Article II, plus the internal tax to which these four products are subject in the Soudan; but from this amount shall be deducted the sum already paid, as custom dues, on their entry into the Soudan.

As regards salt.

ARTICLE IV.

Goods, coming from the Soudan, that pass in transit through the Colony of Erythræa, and those which, coming from the Colony of Erythræa, pass in transit through the Anglo-Egyptian territory of the Soudan—with the exception of goods destined for Egypt—shall benefit by a drawback amounting to the whole of the dues paid. This favoured treatment shall be accorded to goods accompanied by customs stamps and certificates of origin issued by the competent Anglo-Egyptian or Italian authorities.

ARTICLE V.

The present Convention shall be binding for twenty years from the date of its conclusion; at the end of this period it will continue to run by full agreement for periods of five years, unless denounced by one of the Contracting Parties six months before its expiration.

Inclosure 2 in No. 6.

Counter-proposal by Viscount Cromer.

ARTICLE I.

ON the importation into Anglo-Egyptian territory of the Soudan of any goods coming from the Italian Colony of Erythræa no other or higher duties shall be imposed than those which are or may be payable under the Egyptian tariff for the time being in force on the importation into Egypt of the like goods coming from any third country, the most favoured in this respect, provided always that such duties shall not exceed 5 per cent. in the case of goods which may be proved to the satisfaction of the Soudanese Custom-house authorities at the place of entry into the Soudan to be the *bond fide* produce of the said Colony of Erythræa.

ARTICLE II.

On the importation into the Italian Colony of Erythræa of any goods coming from the Anglo-Egyptian territory of the Soudan, no other or higher duties shall be imposed than those which are or may be payable under the tariff for the time being in force in the said Colony on the importation into the said Colony of the like goods coming from any third country, the most favoured in this respect, provided always that such duties shall not exceed 5 per cent. in the case of goods which may be proved to the satisfaction of the Erythræa Custom-house authorities at the place of entry into the said Colony to be the *bond fide* produce of the Anglo-Egyptian territory of the Soudan.

ARTICLE III.

Tobacco in all its forms coming from the Colony of Erythræa may be legally imported into the Anglo-Egyptian territory of the Soudan under the same conditions as may be applicable to tobacco imported into Egypt.

ARTICLE IV.

The importation of arms and ammunition of all kinds into the Anglo-Egyptian of the Soudan is expressly prohibited.

ARTICLE V.

The importation of salt and alcoholic liquors into the Anglo-Egyptian territory of the Soudan shall be subject to such conditions and restrictions as may be from time to time imposed by the Governor-General, who may at any time entirely prohibit such importation if he shall think fit.

ARTICLE VI.

On the importation into the Anglo-Egyptian territory of the Soudan from the Italian Colony of Erythræa of any produce of the said Colony, such as gum, india-rubber, ivory, or ostrich feathers, upon which a tax or royalty is imposed in the Soudan, there shall be levied on such produce the like tax or royalty as that which is for the time being in force in the Soudan, without prejudice to the payment of the duties leviable on such produce under the provisions of Article I:

Provided always that deduction of the amount already paid in respect of Customs duties on the entry of such produce into the Anglo-Egyptian territory of the Soudan shall be made from the amount payable in respect of the said tax or royalty.

ARTICLE VII.

The drawback upon goods coming from the Anglo-Egyptian territory of the Soudan and passing in transit through the Italian Colony of Erythræa, as well as upon goods coming from the said Colony and passing in transit through the said territory, shall be equal in amount to the whole of the duty paid on their entry into the country through which they pass in transit, on condition that they be duly sealed and accompanied by certificates of origin delivered by the competent authorities, either Anglo-Egyptian or Erythræan as the case may be :

Provided always that the provisions of this Article shall not apply to goods imported into Egypt or exported from one of the ports in the Red Sea.

ARTICLE VIII.

The coasting trade between the Anglo-Egyptian territory of the Soudan and the Italian Colony of Erythræa shall be subject to the treatment granted to the most favoured nation by either of the Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE IX.

The present Convention shall remain in force for ten years, counted from the day of exchange of the ratifications ; and in case neither of the two Contracting Parties shall have given notice six months before the expiration of the said period of ten years of their intention to terminate the present Convention, it shall remain in force for a further period of five years, and thereafter for successive periods of the like duration, unless either of the Contracting Parties shall have given such notice as aforesaid six months before the expiration of the quinquennial period then current.

Inclosure 3 in No. 6.

Aide-mémoire.

I HAVE the following observations to offer in explanation of the accompanying draft,

ARTICLE I.

Article I is substantially a reproduction of Articles I and II of the Italian draft. The only difference of any importance is that in the Italian draft it is stated that the Soudanese shall be 3 per cent. less than the Egyptian rate of duty, whereas in the revised draft the Soudanese duty is fixed at 5 per cent. The practical result for the time being is the same. The change is proposed because, although perhaps improbable, it is, nevertheless, conceivable that, during the currency of the proposed Convention, the Egyptian tariff may be modified in the sense either of increase or decrease. As a matter of fact, such Commercial Conventions as have been already signed, give the Egyptian Government the right to increase the duty on certain articles to 10 per cent. This right cannot now be exercised, as Conventions have not been signed with all the Powers, and, therefore, all have the right, under most-favoured-nation treatment, to claim the execution of the Turkish Commercial Convention, which limit the duty to 8 per cent.

ARTICLE II.

The Italian draft makes no provision for the treatment of Soudanese imports into the Erythræan Colony.

Article II of the revised draft is a reproduction, *mutatis mutandis*, of Article I. It accords to articles entering the Erythræan Colony from Anglo-Egyptian territory the same treatment as is accorded to Erythræan imports into the Soudan.

It is possible that the Italian Government may wish to make some special reserves of the nature of those contained in Articles III, IV, and V. On this point I am, of course, unable to speak.

ARTICLE III.

The Italian draft merely exempts tobacco from the treatment accorded to most other articles of import. It is desirable to give greater precision to this Article. The amended Article III provides, therefore, that tobacco shall be imported from the Erythræan Colony into the Soudan on the same conditions as tobacco imported into Egypt.

ARTICLE IV.

This Article deals with arms and ammunition. Here also it is desirable to give precision to the Convention. Under the amended Article IV, the import of arms and ammunition is wholly prohibited.

ARTICLE V.

Under the Italian draft, the treatment of salt is left in suspense. The salt régime in the Soudan has not yet been settled, and some little while may yet elapse before it will be possible to take the subject in hand. In the meanwhile it is obvious that the Soudanese Government must preserve its liberty of action in this matter.

The question of alcoholic liquors cannot, of course, be treated from a purely fiscal point of view. The present Soudanese law is contained in an Ordinance published in the Egyptian "Official Journal" of the 29th May, 1899.

As in the case of salt, it is not intended by the present Convention to lay down that total prohibition of the import of alcoholic liquors must necessarily be the rule, though power to prohibit is maintained. Full liberty of action must, however, be preserved.

ARTICLE VI.

This article is merely an amplification of that part of Article III of the Italian draft, which deals with the treatment of such articles of import as are liable to the payment of a tax or royalty in the Soudan.

ARTICLE VII.

Similarly, Article VII is merely an amplification of Article IV of the Italian draft, regulating the transit trade.

ARTICLE VIII.

This is a new Article. It provides that most-favoured-nation treatment shall be granted to the coasting trade of both Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE IX.

It is impossible to agree to a Convention for so long a period as twenty years. All the Egyptian Commercial Conventions run for ten years. It is proposed, therefore, to fix that term in the present instance.

The question of the régime for the immediate future remains to be considered. It is impossible to allow the existing system, under which goods enter the Soudan duty free, to continue much longer. I propose, therefore, to prolong it till the 15th July only. By that time this paper should have reached Rome. I shall be on the point of departure for Europe. If, as is not improbable, it is found impossible to sign a Convention before the 15th July, I propose pending a final settlement, to give the Governor-General of the Soudan an executive order to introduce from the 15th July the system set forth in the present draft. The negotiations could then either be continued with Sir Rennell Rodd, or they could be suspended and resumed on my return to Egypt in the autumn.

No. 7.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 3.)

(No. 118.)

My Lord,

Cairo, June 26, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith copy of a telegram received yesterday from Mr. Harrington, defining the limits of the province of which Count Leontieff has recently been appointed Governor by the Emperor Menelek.

I have had the honour to inform your Lordship by telegraph of the main facts of this communication.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CROMER.

Inclosure in No. 7.

Mr. Harrington to Viscount Cromer.

(Telegraphic.)

Jibuti, June 24, 1899.

LEONTIEFF appointed Dejaz the 7th June with Government of Baco, Kaisso, Gurda, Kurie, Mali, Banata, Ouba, Chalia, Golda, Bunno, Ba (undecypherable), Kuli countries bounded on west by the Omoina, south by the Amar country. The above formerly constituted Dejaz Tasamma Darghies country.

The above is apparently well within limits of Abyssinian effective occupation and is within the line Menelek has asked me to put forward as his proposal for south frontier.

No. 8.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Viscount Cromer.

(No. 84.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, July 4, 1899.

WITH reference to your Lordship's telegram No. 141 of the 2nd instant, Lord Kitchener fully agrees in the instructions which you propose to send to the Commander of the troops stationed at Omdurman, with regard to relations with the Nuer tribe and the patrol of the Bahr-el-Ghazal.

No. 9.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Viscount Cromer.

(No. 85.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, July 4, 1899.

WITH reference to your Lordship's telegram No. 140 of the 2nd instant, there appears to be no reason why the Agreement with regard to Suakin should not be published.

No. 10.

Intelligence Division to Foreign Office.—(Received July 5.)

THE Director of Military Intelligence presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, with reference to possible Congo encroachments in the Bahr-el-Ghazal, begs to inclose a cutting from the "Matin" of the 25th [?] June, 1899.

The Captain of the "Léopoldville," an Englishman, is known to the Intelligence Division, and will probably supply further details.

18, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W.,

June 29, 1899.

Inclosure in No. 10.

Extract from the "Matin" of June 25 [?], 1899.

IL y a quelques semaines nous annoncions qu'une expédition commerciale Belge allait partir pour le Haut-Ouélé et la région du Nil, une région quasi inexplorée jusqu'ici parce qu'elle s'est trouvée dans la zone d'influence des Mahdistes qui occupaient Khartoum avant d'en avoir été chassés par les troupes Anglo-Egyptiennes. Nous pouvons annoncer aujourd'hui que cette expédition comprendra six de nos compatriotes, qui s'embarqueront le 29 Juin prochain à bord du "Léopoldville." Le chef en sera M. Henri de Backer, ex-Lieutenant de la force publique de l'État Indépendant, qui coopéra à la prise de Redjaf sous les ordres du Commandant Chaltin et passa quatre années en Afrique, dans l'enclave de Lado et comme chef de poste à Nyangara. Comme Sous-Directeur il aura M. Hormess, qui passa trois années dans la région du Kassai. Les quatre agents sont MM. de Ridder, ancien Maréchal de Logis-Chef des Guides, Bricourt, ancien Sergent aux Grenadiers, Penters et Couvreur.

La Mission, devant s'engager dans une région imparfaitement connue et où la sécurité des voyageurs n'est pas encore assurée, aura une escorte armée qui pourra compter jusque 300 soldats. Elle emportera des marchandises d'échange et des vivres pour quatorze mois, ce qui nécessitera l'engagement de 1,500 porteurs.

No. 10*.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 7.)

(No. 144.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, July 7, 1899.

I HAVE agreed to prolong the present arrangement for Customs on the Erythraean frontier, in accordance with a request made to me by M. Tugini, until the end of the present month.

Colonel Maxwell has been instructed to set in force the arrangement settled in the draft Convention inclosed in my despatch No. 116 on the 1st August.

I have informed Lord Currie.

No. 11.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Viscount Cromer.

(No. 144.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, July 7, 1899.

I HAVE received your Lordship's despatch No. 116 of the 23rd ultimo relative to the proposed Customs Convention between the Soudan and Erythræa.

I approve the course which your Lordship has taken in this question, and I concur in your proposal that the Convention, when its terms are finally settled, should be signed by the Governor-General of the Soudan.

I note with pleasure the testimony which you bear to the valuable services rendered by Colonel Parsons when Governor of Suakin. The assistance given by that officer towards the settlement of the various questions pending with the authorities of Erythræa and the ability with which he discharged the duties of his office have been fully appreciated by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 12.

Sir E. Monson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 8.)

(No. 155. Commercial.)

My Lord,

Paris, July 7, 1899.

WITH reference to Colonel Hayes Sadler's despatch No. 44, Confidential, of the 25th May last, I have the honour to transmit herewith to your Lordship an extract from the "*Journal des Chambres de Commerce*,"* criticizing the policy of levying the proposed taxes on the French Somali Coast.

The following are the principal taxes imposed from the 1st May last:—

Five per cent. on the rental value of houses inhabited by Europeans payable half-yearly in advance.

Native huts are taxed at the rate of 5 centimes per square metre, equal to a payment of 3 fr. per year, which must be made in one sum during the first quarter.

The tax on alcohols and liquors varies from 30 centimes to 1 fr. per litre, wines in casks 5 centimes per litre, in bottles 10 centimes per bottle, while champagne and other sparkling wines pay 25 centimes per litre or bottle.

Shopkeepers and retailers are subject to a "patente" tax of 50 fr. half-yearly, payable in advance, while merchants will pay a tax varying from 100 to 150 fr.; the highest "patente" tax, amounting to 200 fr., would be paid by the Railway Company.

An import duty is placed on dates, dourah, flour, rice, barley, wheat, and maize, and an export duty on animals and hides, but the latter when exported to France are exempted.

Shipping dues are also established, and are applicable to all kinds of native sea craft.

There is also a slaughtering tax, amounting to 2 fr. for a camel, 1 fr. for an ox, and 20 centimes for a goat or a sheep.

Business transactions between natives are subjected to a tax of 5 per cent. on the amount of each operation.

Coolies engaged to emigrate for work outside the Protectorate are taxed at the rate of 5 fr., as are also natives engaged to serve on merchant vessels, and 1 fr. per native will be levied on those employed as stokers on mail steamers, while passports delivered to natives are fixed at 20 fr.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDMUND MONSON.

No. 13.

Mr. Harrington to Viscount Cromer.—(Received at the Foreign Office, July 24.)

(No. 41. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Addis Abbaba, May 26, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your Lordship's information, that yesterday after the discussion, referred to in a separate despatch, with His Majesty King Menelek, a proposed Soudan frontier was mutually agreed on, subject to approval by Her Majesty's Government.

King Menelek's proposed frontier, roughly shown by the dotted red line on the accompanying map, with the following modifications, roughly shown by a dotted blue line, was accepted:—

1. The line is to follow tribal boundaries.
2. The Kedawi country, should it be found to be more west than east of the dotted blue line, to be under Egypt.
3. The line to follow the eastern boundaries of the Gallabat Province, the Debaineh and Dar-es-Somati countries.
4. Dar Gubba and Dar Gumuz countries to be under Abyssinia, that is to say Abu Shokh's country to remain Abyssinian, but Famaka district, including the country of Sheikh Abu Naama of Ras-el-Khor, and the district of Fazokl to remain under Egypt. Then starting from the junction of the Khor Baba, the frontier line follows the Tumat

For a short distance, makes a curve, as roughly shown by the dotted blue line on the map, leaving the Beni Schongul and Shangalla countries under Abyssinia, till it meets the river shown on the map as Songa (Adura) and follows the course of this river to its junction with the Sobat.

Should it be found that this river does not exist, the first tributary east of Nasser, on the north bank of the Sobat, will be substituted.

Should it be found that there is any tribe dependent on Dejasmach Jote, or on Dejasmach Demisi between the dotted blue and red lines, south of a line drawn through Gohol, the line is to be diverted as far as the dotted red line, so as to include them within the Abyssinian frontier.

The line is then to follow the Sobat to its junction with the Pibor (Juba) River; thence the main stream Pibor River to where it crosses the 6th degree of latitude, to be the frontier.

If the Pibor River does not go as far south as the 6th degree, then its course to where it intersects the 34th degree of longitude east of Greenwich shall be the frontier.

5. The frontier, roughly shown by the dotted blue line on the accompanying map, when delimited, to be amended in accordance with the hydrographic and orographic conditions of the country.

Your Lordship will notice that King Menelek's proposed frontier leaves the town of Matamma within the Abyssinian frontier. As regards this town I informed His Majesty that I was not prepared to take the responsibility of saying that its cession would be acceptable to Her Majesty's Government, and that I preferred to leave the question of the town for settlement by Her Majesty's Government, but should fully represent His Majesty's views and wishes on the subject to Government. The subject of Matamma is dealt with in a separate despatch.

To obviate any misunderstanding this despatch has been shown to King Menelek by M. Ilg, Councillor of State, and the latter's remarks are forwarded herewith.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. L. HARRINGTON.

Inclosure in No. 13.

M. Ilg to Mr. Harrington.

M. J. L. Harrington,

Adis Abeba, le 31 Mai, 1899.

J'AI l'honneur de vous communiquer que Sa Majesté Menelek II, après avoir pris connaissance de votre télégramme du 26 Mai à son Excellence Lord Cromer au sujet des frontières de l'Éthiopie du côté du Soudan, a trouvé les termes de ce télégramme parfaitement d'accord avec ce qui avait été convenue dans l'audience du 25 Mai.

J'ai soumis aussi à l'appréciation de Sa Majesté la demande que vous m'aviez formulée, si Sa Majesté ne voyait pas d'inconvénients, que le Gouvernement Britannique loue de Sa Majesté un endroit salubre du côté des Provinces du Dejasmach Tasamma, pour pouvoir y faire passer la garnison de Nasser la mauvaise saison, et j'ai l'honneur de vous faire savoir que Sa Majesté tiendra volontiers un endroit sur le haut plateau comme sanatorium à la disposition du Gouvernement Britannique à des conditions faciles à stipuler.

Veillez, &c.

(Signé) ALFRED ILG.

No. 14.

Mr Harrington to Viscount Cromer.—(Received at the Foreign Office, July 24.)

(No. 42. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Addis Abbaba, May 26, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your Lordship's information, that on the 22nd instant King Menelek sent me the map with what he proposed as the frontier between Abyssinia and the Soudan, and yesterday I discussed the subject with him.

In opening the discussion on the line proposed by him, I informed him that I had orders to discuss the Soudan frontier with him, and to lay before my Government

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what I considered would be an arrangement satisfactory to both him and my Government.

I briefly recapitulated what I said we considered Egypt's rights to the Nile Valley, and again assured him that we had no other desire than to settle matters with him in a friendly manner, and to come to an arrangement that would be satisfactory to both. I reminded him of what he had said—that he was willing to settle the matter in a friendly manner, and on the principle of give and take, and that it seemed to me that the give was apparently to be all on our side.

I then proceeded to discuss the proposed line with him, and pointed out the undesirability of a line which placed tribal limits under two Governments. After some slight objections he at length accepted that tribal limits should be followed.

As regards the Kedawi country I tried hard to get him to accept their tribal limits instead of the line he proposed, and seeing that he was very much opposed to this, I at last got him to agree to the condition that if their territory was more west than east of my alternative proposal, they should remain under Egypt.

The question of the town of Matamma is dealt with in a separate despatch.

As regards the tribal limits of the Dar-es-Somati and Debaineh countries, after a little pressure he accepted my proposals.

As regards the Famaka and Fazokl districts, he tried to get me to accept his proposed line, which would merely leave Jebel, Fazokl, and Famaka in our hands. After considerable discussion, with some difficulty I got him to accept my proposal that the districts should remain under Egypt, only stipulating that Abu Shokh's country, as he was tributary to him, should remain Abyssinian. I did not press the claims of Egypt to Beni Schongul, as, owing to its being a gold bearing district, I knew he had set his heart on it, and that nothing short of a threat of using force would induce him to abandon his claims to it. I contented myself with getting him to agree that the line should skirt the Beni Schongul hills and Shangalla country.

The frontier in the neighbourhood of Nasser and thence south gave considerable difficulty. I tried very hard to induce him to accept a frontier more to the east without avail, as it appears much in the neighbourhood of Walega is under the influence of Dejasmatches, Jote, and Demisi, and pays tribute to Menelek. Eventually I induced him to accept my proposal. South of the Sobat he also could not be induced to accept a frontier east of the Juba (Pibor) River, as Dejasmach Tasamma Nadoo's country, the Kung Kung country, is on that river.

Having thus arranged the frontier to the 6th degree of latitude, the King then wished to settle the frontier between him and the British East Africa Protectorate. This matter is referred to in a separate despatch.

I then returned to the question of Beni Schongul, and asked what was our share of the arrangement which left him the Beni Schongul country. I remarked that so far as between him and me, the frontier was finished, but that I had to defend my action and give reasons for it to my Government. What was I to say for yielding our rights to Beni Schongul? The King remarked that the country was valueless, only mountains and sand. "From an agricultural point of view, perhaps so, but it is worth a good deal as a gold country," was my reply. He asked me how the gold was to be extracted, and I replied, "By proper machinery." The King immediately replied, "But I have promised to give gold mining concessions to the English capitalists who sent Mr. Lane out." I then told him if he would send for Mr. Lane to settle the question of gold mining concessions, and thus permit English capitalists to find an employment for their capital in Abyssinia, I should say no more about Beni Schongul.

It was then agreed that I should tell Mr. Lane to come out to arrange the matter, and that the King would send a letter telling him to come.

The discussion then ended, and the King apparently spontaneously remarked: "I had intended to claim very much more than I have done, but I value the friendship of England more than some miles of extra territory. After the way you have discussed the question of the frontier with me, I am now convinced of what you have told me—that your Government only wishes for friendly relations, and desires me and my Empire to remain independent.

"When I marked the line on the map I marked it where I did to see whether your Government was friendly disposed towards me or not."

In accepting the proposed frontier agreed on, I have been guided by the lines laid down by the Sirdar in his Memorandum on the subject of a suitable frontier, and your Lordship's instructions that you wished to retain Gallabat and Fazokl.

At the most, very little of what formerly really belonged to Egypt, except the Beni Schongul country, is lost, and much of what is ceded to Abyssinia I believe was formerly a bone of contention between Egypt and Abyssinia, as the frontiers were never properly defined between these two countries. In my opinion it represents the maximum that Menelek is prepared to accede to with good grace, and short of a threat of using force, in face of which he would give way, I doubt it being possible to induce him to accept less.

If we insist on his moderating his pretensions more than he has done, he will do so, but it will be with a bad grace, and the result will be to render him still more suspicious of us than ever, and to increase both French and Russian influence here, which at the present moment, so far as it is possible to form an opinion, are not of much account.

With the gold mining concessions in the hands of English capitalists, should the gold bearing districts be found rich, the influence of these two Powers ought to become a cypher and British influence paramount.

In conclusion, I am convinced that it has been chiefly due to the fear that the cession of Beni Schongul will be insisted on that the King has withdrawn his former pretensions to the extent he has done, and made it possible to arrive at an arrangement which, I hope, will meet with the approval of Her Majesty's Government and your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. L. HARRINGTON.

No. 15.

Mr. Harrington to Viscount Cromer.—(Received at the Foreign Office, July 24.)

(No. 43. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Addis Abbaba, May 26, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your Lordship's information, that when the proposed frontier was under discussion I tried hard to induce King Menelek to withdraw his wish to have possession of the town of Matamma.

I reiterated Egypt's former claims, pointed out how on the defeat of the Dervishes we had occupied it. I supported Egypt's claims with the fact that King John had acknowledged it as being under both Egyptian and Dervish rule, and that it was ours by right of conquest. To this he replied: "Matamma was under my influence. I had sent my men there, and as for right of conquest, only that I did not wish to be misrepresented, I might have conquered very much more than Matamma from the Dervishes." I pointed out that his action was the same as if, while engaged with Ras Mangasha of Tigre, we had gone and put up a flag in a portion of his country.

This he would not admit, and he inquired of me, "Why, if it was your country, did the officer in command of Gedaref, when the people of Matamma sent messengers to him to report that my men had hoisted my flag there, tell them they were Abyssinian subjects, and to go back and live in peace?" To this I replied I knew nothing; and he told me to inquire from my Government if what he said was not true. Seeing that he was very tenacious about Matamma, I told him that if he had opened the frontier discussion when we first went to Galabat, or even at Desi, I might have come to some arrangement with him, but that now the Anglo-Egyptian troops had been there so long I dare not take the responsibility of saying that my Government would be agreeable to his proposal, as they had to consider public opinion. I said I preferred to leave the question of Matamma out of the discussion, and should leave it for the decision of my Government, and inquired what was to be our equivalent should he be allowed to have Matamma; he replied, "I have already given you an equivalent in withdrawing my claims to country that pays me tribute, and all that (pointing to the Gallabat province and country up to Tumat); besides, I am giving up my claims to the Debaine country, which paid me tribute without any difficulty."

I replied that if he was agreeable I should leave the question for Government to decide. He agreed to this, and remarked, "Tell your Government I do not wish to claim Matamma as a right, I do not wish to make any question of rights about it; even if I did, I have not the force to make my rights good against you. I merely ask your Government, for friendship's sake, to let me have Matamma, on account of the

associations the place has for me and my people. There are many Christians there. King John was killed there, and the blood of many of my people has been spilt there, and it is for these reasons we wish to have it."

So far as it is possible to form an opinion here, there is no doubt Menelek is extremely anxious to have the town of Matamma, though it is open to doubt whether his sentimental reasons are at the bottom of his anxiety for Matamma. It is extremely probable that Matamma's commercial value as a trade centre has more to do with his desire than sentiment.

I hinted at this to Menelek, who assured me that if England would only let him have it he would in no way interfere with the course of trade, and only wished to see trade increased between Abyssinia and the Soudan.

Personally, I do not know enough about Matamma to enable me to pass an opinion as to the advisability of allowing Menelek to have the town of Matamma or not, though McKelvey, who knows all the Gallabat and surrounding country, seems to think that as the province is in our hands it would make very little difference whether the Abyssinians are at Matamma or not. He seems to think that, with the better treatment under Anglo-Egyptian rule, the trade centre would of itself shift to Doka, or that even it might be possible to establish Ras-el-Fil as a trade centre.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. L. HARRINGTON.

No. 16.

Mr. Harrington to Viscount Cromer.—(Received at the Foreign Office, July 24.)

(No. 44. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Addis Abbaba, May 26, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your Lordship's information, that when M. Ilg returned me the map on which I had marked what we claimed as Egyptian territory, I found that a proposed line for a frontier between British East Africa and Abyssinia had been marked.

My map of the Nile Valley was accompanied by Sheet 4 Skieler's "Hand Atlas." No. 69, Africa, in six sheets. Justus Perthes' map.

The proposed line continued from the Juba (Pibor) River included the Isching, Arbore Galla, Turkana country to the southern shore of Lake Rudolph, whence, including the Lake in the Abyssinian sphere, the line ran due east, bisecting the Aschaka Sea to the Juba River.

When I went to discuss the frontier with Menelek, I suggested that we should deal with the Soudan and East African frontiers separately. He agreed, and when the proposed frontier was arranged, he remarked, "Now let us settle the other frontier."

I then informed him that I had absolutely no instructions about this frontier. I assured him that I was certain that no cause of quarrel would ever arise with him over this frontier, and that there was no doubt we should come to a friendly arrangement in the southern direction, in the same way as we had done over the Soudan frontier. I informed him that I should be glad to know on what grounds he based his claims to the country included within the line marked on the map. He said he based his claims on his Proclamation of 1891, in which he had communicated the limits of his Empire to all the Powers. I reminded him that Mr. Rodd had explained the matter of the Proclamation to him, and had told him that it was not to be reconciled with the Anglo-German Agreement, &c. He held greatly to the value of this document, so I remarked that it was owing no doubt to the Treaty of Ucialli that the difficulty about his Proclamation and the Anglo-German Agreement had arisen. We both had pretensions to this territory, and it seemed to me that we were in the same situation as any two Powers claiming territory in Africa, and as we were neither of us intending to use force in supporting our respective claims, the only claims either of us could put forward was effective occupation.

Eventually after argument he admitted that the principle on which he based his claims was that of effective occupation. I then informed him that now, knowing the principle on which he based his claims to the territory marked on the map, I was in a position to argue the question with him. I informed him that it was impossible that my Government would accept his proposed line. I said that, though I had no orders on the subject, I was prepared to take on myself the responsibility of discussing the matter to a certain extent on condition that my doing so was in no way to be con-

sidered as affecting my Government's action, and that I should talk over the question with M. Ilg, in the hopes that a proposal might be framed which I personally could support and recommend to Government.

The King then asked me to discuss the matter with M. Ilg.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. L. HARRINGTON.

No. 17.

Mr. Harrington to Viscount Cromer.—(Received at Foreign Office, July 10.)

(No. 47.)

My Lord,

Addis Abbaba, May 29, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your Lordship's information, the return of Captain Boulatovitch as Military Attaché to the Russian Minister here. He is the bearer of gifts to Menelek from the Emperor of Russia, including an ikon of St. George in a gold frame studded with precious stones. From what I have heard, it seems that this gift is of considerable value.

M. Lagarde left this morning for France. He only decided on going after my decision of going.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. L. HARRINGTON.

No. 18.

Mr. Harrington to Viscount Cromer.—(Received at the Foreign Office, July 24.)

(No. 48. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Addis Abbaba, May 31, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your Lordship's information, that, knowing the unhealthiness of the Nasser district, I had intended, when discussing the proposed frontier, to ask for a sanatorium on the plateau for the garrison. At the audience the matter slipped my memory, consequently I asked M. Ilg to ask the King if he would have any objection to hiring us a place as a sanatorium. The King has accepted my proposition, and reference is made to it in M. Ilg's letter which accompanies my despatch No. 41, Confidential.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. L. HARRINGTON.

No. 19.

Mr. Harrington to Viscount Cromer.—(Received at Foreign Office, July 10.)

(No. 49.)

My Lord,

Addis Abbaba, May 31, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to report for your Lordship's information that it is locally reported that matters are getting worse in Tigre. Ras Makunan is said to be in difficulties about obtaining rations for his troops. He has already asked Italy to send him rations. He has, by Proclamation, ordered the farmers to plough, and the traders to trade; they have refused to obey, saying that they are not going to plough to feed the Shoan army for nothing. His Proclamation of establishing for them a peaceful government has only had the effect of rousing the population to worse conduct, and increasing the number of rebels, although the Chief of Adwa and a few others have surrendered to Ras Makunan. If this state of affairs increases, it is probable that Ras Makunan will have to withdraw to Semen for the rainy season.

Ras Araya's son, nephew to Ras Mangasha, is said to have had three days' skirmish with some of Ras Makunan's force in which the Shoans lost a lot of men. He has also looted some of Ras Makunan's caravans *en route* to Adwa with ammunition and stores near Wafia Ashangi. It is rumoured that Ras Araya's son is trying to cut communications

between Shoa and Ras Makunan, while keeping Ras Makunan at Adua by constantly moving about. He has also proclaimed free trade for traders as long as they sell him ammunition and arms.

Dejaz Asgadom, son of Ras Sebhat has defeated Nabrit Walda Giorgis of Axum. Tigre Makunan, the third son of Ras Sebhat is also giving the Shoan troops trouble.

The two sons of Ras Mangasha, with their mother are still in their amba with a strong garrison, and have three years' provisions. Their guardian has refused point blank to hand them over to Ras Makunan. As the country throughout is in a rebellious condition, the Shoan troops will have some difficulty in getting anywhere near this amba.

Ras Michael has been ordered by the King to go to the assistance of Ras Makunan.

Dejaz Abata has recently arrived from Tigre after losing a considerable number of men.

The above information has been acquired by the agency interpreters in course of conversation with numerous individuals.

It is difficult to say how far it is true, but one thing is certain that Ras Makunan is finding himself in difficulties, and affairs in Tigre are not satisfactory. It is possible that Ras Mangasha may be sent back to Tigre.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. L. HARRINGTON.

No. 20.

Mr. Harrington to Viscount Cromer.—(Received at Foreign Office, July 10.)

(No. 50. Strictly Confidential.)

My Lord,

Addis Abbaba, May 31, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to report for your Lordship's information that of late the Russian Minister has been redoubling his former efforts to induce the King to demand Raheita from the Italians when the Erythraean frontier is settled.

This probably accounts for the fresh presents brought out by Captain Bulatovitch (*vide* my despatch No. 47).

Consequently at my next interview with the King, I shall inform him of the attitude taken up by my Government when the Raheita incident between France and Italy occurred.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. L. HARRINGTON.

No. 21.

Mr. Harrington to Viscount Cromer.—(Received at Foreign Office, July 10.)

(No. 51. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Addis Abbaba, May 31, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that M. Vlassof has openly declared that he intended asking King Menelek for permission for Captain Bulatovitch to make the same journey as Lord Lovat and Mr. Weld-Blundell.

His reason for wishing this officer to make this journey as openly stated by him is that he wished to know the true state of affairs in the Soudan. When it was remarked that Dervishes would probably be come across in this journey, M. Vlassof replied that he had the means of passing his officer through the Dervishes.

I have accordingly decided to mention to King Menelek that for the present the Soudan is closed to all travellers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. L. HARRINGTON.

No. 22.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 10.)

(No. 148.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, July 10, 1899.

BOUTROS PASHA and myself signed the Suakin Agreement to-day. Its publication will ensue immediately.

No. 23.

Consul Alvarez to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 14.)

(No. 9. Africa.)

My Lord,

Bengazi, June 27, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to report the receipt of intelligence to-day that Es Senusy some time ago dispatched a Mission to Darfur, composed of ten or twelve persons, for the purpose of opening up a route to that country for political, religious, and commercial purposes. Twenty or twenty-five days at least would be required to traverse the distance between Kufra and Darfur, passing through a country called Zagho, which, I presume, is identical with the territory of the Zoghawa.

The names of the persons composing the Mission are as follows:—

Four Schaykhs of the Zeway: Scheykhs Ibrahim, Abdurrahym, Mahmud-ben-Abdul Kerym, and Abdul Cader; four Akhwan (brethren): Sid Mustapha, Sid Abdallah, Sid Abdul Kerym, and Sid Abdul Ghafir, and the Mejbery Weld-el-Beschary, and other traders.

They are supplied with a large number of "tesbyhs" (rosaries) "jubbes" or gowns, and other articles, the outward signs of Senusism, so that evidently the conversion of many Darfurys is anticipated. It appears that no hindrances now exist on the part of the Sultan of Waday to commercial relations between his subjects and the people of Darfur and a large proportion of the ivory now in Bengazi is brought from the latter country.

I have, &c.

(Signed) JUSTIN ALVAREZ.

P.S. *June 30.*—It is stated that Sid El Mehdy wishes to leave Kufra for Tucu or Geru (which of the two places is not precisely known) and has issued a requisition to some of the Zawias in this province for transport purposes. Both are to the south of the frontier-line as drawn in Article III of the Declaration of London of the 21st March. This may possibly be due to the rumoured arrival of a British force at the Ogbra referred to in my despatch No. 9.

J. A.

No. 24.

Consul Alvarez to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 14.)

(No. 10. Africa.)

My Lord,

Bengazi, July 5, 1899.

WITH reference to my immediately preceding despatch I have to report the receipt of information, based on a letter received from Kufra by one of the Akhwan, to the effect that Sid El Mehdy finding the oases of Kufra in spite of their isolation in the desert too much exposed to a *coup de main*, or sudden attack, has determined on establishing himself in some place to the north of Baghermy on the borders of the territory of the Ewlad Suleyman and within the sphere of influence of the Sultan of Waday, whose consent has already been obtained.

In view of the explanation of the probable foundation for the rumour that a British officer and camelry had arrived at the Egyptian frontier, contained in Sir Thomas Sanderson's despatch of the 8th of last month, which was received two days ago, and of the fact that by this time Sid El Mehdy's agents at Sywah must have informed him that

no such force had arrived there, this persistence in a southward movement is very remarkable.

I have, &c.
(Signed) JUSTIN ALVAREZ.

No. 25.

Sir R. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 17.)

(No. 153.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, July 17, 1899.

INFORMATION has reached Colonel Maxwell to the effect that a Dervish Emir with his force has arrived from Bor at Kalaka in South Darfour.

According to reports received from the Commandant at Kassala, Ras Mangasha has dispatched two new Abyssinian flags to Gallabat. Mr. Harrington's despatch No. 43, which is now on its way to London, should perhaps be read in connection with this information.

No. 26.

Mr. Raikes to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 20.)

(No. 141.)

My Lord,

Brussels, July 19, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to inclose herewith copies of an extract from the "Petit Bleu" of to-day's date with regard to a statement which is said to have appeared in an English newspaper, to the effect that the King of the Belgians was about to visit London with a view to discussing the question of the Bahr-el-Ghazal with your Lordship.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ARTHUR S. RAIKES.

Inclosure in No. 26.

Extract from the "Petit Bleu" of the 19th July, 1899.

LA question du Bahr-el-Ghazal :

Un journal Anglais assure que le Roi des Belges va se rendre incessamment à Londres pour conférer avec Lord Salisbury au sujet de la question du Bahr-el-Ghazal. La nouvelle n'est point invraisemblable, notre Souverain s'étant plus d'une fois rendu en Angleterre pour aider lui-même à la solution de certaines questions délicates.

Or, l'on sait que depuis la Convention Franco-Anglaise, qui a mis fin à l'incident de Fachoda, les Français ont renoncé à toute ingérence dans le Bahr-el-Ghazal. Les Conventions restrictives imposées par la France au Roi Léopold, à la suite de la Convention Anglo-Congolaise du 12 Mai, 1894, sont donc par le fait nulles et non avenues, et le contrat à bail du Bahr-el-Ghazal reprend pour l'État toute sa valeur, juste au moment où l'Angleterre regrette de l'avoir signé.

L'État du Congo exigera-t-il la plénitude de ses droits, ou préférera-t-il, par certaines concessions, ne point s'aliéner le Gouvernement Britannique ?

Telle est la question que le Roi lui-même aurait l'intention d'aller débattre à Londres avec le chef du Foreign Office.

No. 27.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Mr. Raikes.

(No. 81.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 20, 1899.

I TRANSMIT to you herewith a copy of a letter from the Intelligence Division inclosing an extract from the "Matin" relative to arrangements for a Belgian commercial expedition into the Upper Welle and Nile districts.*

I should wish to be furnished with any information you can obtain tending to confirm or discredit this report.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 28.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Mr. Harrington.

(No. 28. Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, July 21, 1899.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 51, Confidential, of the 31st May, addressed to Viscount Cromer, and reporting that M. Vlassof had stated his intention of asking King Menelek for permission for Captain Bulatovitch to make a journey in the direction of the Soudan.

Your decision to mention to King Menelek that the Soudan was, for the present, closed to all travellers, is approved.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 29.

Consul-General Jago to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 22.)

(No. 11. Africa.)

My Lord,

Tripoli, July 15, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to report that since the date of my despatch No. 9 of the 24th May last, reporting the arrival in the Aïr country of the French "Foureau" Mission, no trustworthy information respecting the Mission has reached Tripoli. Reports have been now and again brought here by Tuaregs as to the general discomfiture of the French, but no credence has been given to them. No letters have yet reached the Stradamseen merchants of Tripoli from their correspondents at Aïr and Ghât, although anxiously expected, and as the French press makes no allusion to the Mission, it is believed that its communications with Algeria still remain interrupted by the Tuaregs.

By to-day's post, however, from Murzâk, a letter announces the arrival there of a courier from Ghât reporting a collision between the Tuaregs and the French in the Aïr country, in which the former lost seven men, and the latter 1,000 camels; that the French then marched on Zinder to replenish their stock of camels, but, finding few, burnt what was not absolutely necessary of their stores to prevent them from falling into the hands of the Tuaregs. They were said to be in good health and strong in numbers.

Owing to lack of clearness of expression, it is impossible to say whether the French Mission referred to was that of Foureau or that of Voulet-Chapoine coming from Say.

The letter reports also fighting between the Tuaregs of Damerghu and those of Zigger [?], in which the Chief Sadik, his son, and nephew, with 100 men, were killed on the one side, and the Chief Moussa wounded on the other. Peace between Kano and Zinder is confirmed.

Regarding the recent expedition from the Fezzan against the Tibboo Resháda, of Tibesti, the results of which do not appear to have been so favourable to the former as was supposed, Sheikh Senussi has left Kufra for Guro, a small place on the south-

west of the Tibesti mountains, and is reported to have persuaded the Resháda to send their Sheikhs to Murzúk to ask pardon, promising not to disturb the caravan routes in future.

No news has yet been received of the Tripoli caravans which left here three years ago, and which are reported to have received Rabeh's permission to quit Bornu for Tripoli.

The great success which has recently attended commercial operations with Wadaï has much encouraged the traders of Tripoli, and large consignments of goods are preparing to leave for that country. A few caravans are also preparing for the Western Soudan, and will start on the first favourable news from Air.

I have, &c.
(Signed) THOS. S. JAGO.

No. 30.

Sir R. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 22.)

(No. 156.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

San Stefano, July 22, 1899.

I HAVE received a communication from M. Tugini stating that the Italian Government accept Lord Cromer's counter-proposal contained in his Lordship's despatch No. 116 of the 23rd ultimo for the Soudan-Erythraean Customs Convention.

The Governor of Erythræa is expected to come to Egypt in the autumn, and it is proposed to defer signing the Agreement until his arrival, but it will be enforced from 1st August.

No. 31.

Mr. Harrington to Viscount Cromer.—(Received at Foreign Office, July 24.)

(No. 52.)

My Lord,

Addis Abbaba, June 3, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your Lordship's information, that yesterday King Menelek informed me that he had just received a courier from the Borana country with information that an English force was moving in the direction of the Borana country.

I replied that I had no news of any such movement, but if there was any such force orders were certain to have been given to avoid all collision with the Abyssinian forces.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. L. HARRINGTON.

No. 32.

Mr. Harrington to Viscount Cromer.—(Received at the Foreign Office, July 24.)

(No. 53. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Addis Abbaba, June 3, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your Lordship's information, with reference to my despatch No. 50, Strictly Confidential, that I informed King Menelek yesterday concerning our attitude in the Raheita incident between Italy and France.

I informed him that I knew the Russians were intriguing for Raheita. This he acknowledged, and I told him that, as regards any interference with the *status quo* in the Red Sea, I thought my Government would scarcely be able to reconcile any action on his part tending to derange the present situation in the Red Sea, as consistent with his many declarations of friendship towards my Government.

I further reminded him that I thought if Italy retired from Raheita we should revive Egypt's claims to the place—in fact, I considered it as a question which affected not only Italy, but also England.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. L. HARRINGTON.

No. 33.

Mr. Harrington to Viscount Cromer.—(Received at the Foreign Office, July 24.)

(No. 53 A. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Addis Abbaba, June 3, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your Lordship's information, in continuation of my despatch No. 44 of 1899, that after discussion referred to in a separate despatch, His Majesty King Menelek has proposed the following frontier between Abyssinia and British East Africa:—

“Following tribal limits when actual delimitation takes place the frontier to start from the termination of the Soudan frontier, making a curve to the mouth of the small river which enters Lake Rudolph on the north, and west of the Omo River, the Turkana country to remain in the British sphere.

On the southern side, starting from the junction of the Daua River with the Djuba River (Ganana), the frontier being based on tribal limits, the Marehan to be in the British sphere, the Gere, Gabra, Sakayu, Gabra, Sabo and Tertala tribes in the Ethiopian sphere. When the limits of the Tertala tribe are reached, the frontier to be a line running from the Tertala southern limits to Lake Rudolph, the Burkenedschi being in the British sphere.”

As I was without orders concerning the southern frontier, I informed the King that I accepted his proposal on the distinct understanding that my action in this matter was not to be considered in any way binding on my Government, and on condition that the acceptance of his proposal only bound me personally to give my support to his proposal.

This despatch has been shown to His Majesty King Menelek by M. Ilg, Councillor of State, whose reply is herewith sent.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. L. HARRINGTON.

Inclosure in No. 33.

M. Ilg to Mr. Harrington.

Monsieur,

Addis Abbaba, le 4 Juin, 1899.

J'AI l'honneur de vous communiquer que Sa Majesté Ménilek II a pris connaissance de votre dépêche du 3 Juin, 1899, à son Excellence le Marquis de Salisbury, et que Sa Majesté l'a trouvée conforme à sa proposition de la délimitation des frontières entre l'Éthiopie et les possessions Britanniques au sud de l'Éthiopie.

Sa Majesté m'a exprimé de nouveau sa pleine confiance en vous pour tout ce qui regarde l'arrangement des frontières, soit du côté du Soudan, soit du côté sud, et Sa Majesté a bien voulu me charger de vous donner connaissance de ces sentiments.

Espérant que vous réussirez à résoudre la question des frontières entre l'Éthiopie et les possessions Britanniques d'une façon satisfaisante pour les intérêts de l'Éthiopie et de l'Angleterre auprès du Gouvernement de Sa Majesté la Reine d'Angleterre, je vous prie d'agréer, &c.

(Signé) ALFRED ILG, *Conseiller d'État.*

No. 34.

Mr. Harrington to Viscount Cromer.—(Received at Foreign Office, July 24.)

(No. 55.)

My Lord,

Addis Abbaba, June 3, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your Lordship's information, that yesterday I again inquired from King Menelek what he was going to give Leontieff.

He replied that he intended giving him a province near Walamo, and assured me that there would be Abyssinian Chiefs around him, so that Leontieff would not be able to go near the frontiers.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. L. HARRINGTON.

No. 35.

Mr. Harrington to Viscount Cromer.—(Received at the Foreign Office, July 24.)

(No. 56. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Addis Abbaba, June 3, 1899.

IN continuation of my despatch No. 44, Confidential, I discussed the question of a south-western and southern frontier with M. Ilg, without any result beyond ascertaining that if his statements are to be relied on the Borana country is effectually occupied by the Abyssinians, and is divided between Fitaurari Habta Giorgis and Dejasmatch Asfau Darghie, the Gere tribes being under this latter, while on the east bank of the Juba, Dejasmatch Walda Gabriel's province extends as far as Lugh, which has not yet been given up by the Italians.

The Italian frontier which was accepted by Major Nerazzini in a moment of panic runs from the Le Hele Cataract to our Somali Protectorate frontier, both frontiers meeting at the point on the 48th degree east of Greenwich, where our frontier turns north.

On the 31st I spent two hours in discussion with the King, during which he reduced his claims west of Lake Rudolph, but on the south claimed effective occupation of all the country north of the 3rd degree of latitude.

He urged his claims that his troops had been from El Dere to Bardera and brought the country under his sway.

I urged that mere raiding did not constitute effective occupation. He replied that the Chiefs had made submission to his troops, and, having made submission, were reappointed by him, and that it was practically what we did.

Eventually I flatly refused to support his proposal at all, and told him I would merely put the proposition before my Government.

This would not satisfy him, and he said he would see me again. I saw him again yesterday and claimed that the Marehan had made their submission long ago to us, before ever he sent troops into this country, and disputed his effective occupation of the Gere, Gabra, Sakuyu, Sabo, Rendile, Burkenedschi, and Tertala tribes. He replied that the Marehan had paid him tribute, and the Chiefs of the Gere and the Gabra were at the present moment in Addis Abbaba, and that his men were in all the countries named, except the Rendile and Burkenedschi countries. I still refused to do other than merely place his proposal before Government.

This he would not agree to, and said he would not let me go till he had arranged something I would support.

He then proposed leaving the Marehan and Rendile to us and Sabo, Gabra, and Sakuyu to him. I still refused to support his proposal, and eventually he, after a long struggle, proposed the line referred to in my despatch No. 53 A, Confidential. The discussions were carried out on Perthes' Map "Das Sudliche Schoa und die nordlichen gebiete der Galla und Somal, 1897."

I then said that accepting his claims to effective occupation which I was not in a position to dispute as correct, I would personally support his proposal, but on the distinct understanding that my action was in no way to be considered as affecting my Government's liberty of action.

As regards the western frontier, I have heard that when yesterday Captain Bulatovitch presented his map of the route of the expedition made in 1897 by Ras Walda Giorgis which he accompanied, the King turned to Walda Giorgis and said, "It was not there, *i.e.*, Rudolph, I meant you to go but to Lado."

There is no doubt that since the publication of Donaldson-Smith's book and Mr. Rodd's Mission extraordinary activity has been displayed by the Abyssinians partly on account of the descriptions of the country given by the former, partly because of their fear of our near approach to Shoa, and partly owing to the information obtained from Bottego's papers.

My reasons for discussing the question were partly because I judged that effective occupation would be the basis of settlement, and I could see that the Abyssinians were getting the better at this game, partly because I recognized that a proposal on Menelek's part would put a limit to Abyssinian expansion, as he can scarcely now go beyond his proposed line, and partly because I dreaded his making use of Léontieff to occupy territory that we have not yet occupied.

I told the King that if Government accepted his proposal he would have to put a stop to raiding, which public opinion in England would never tolerate. He denied that he allowed raiding in his countries, and said that he had issued orders against raiding. It was only when his men were killed that he ordered punitive expeditions.

I said that whatever frontier was agreed on he would have to promise good government, and this, he said, he was prepared to do.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. L. HARRINGTON.

No. 36.

Mr. Harrington to Viscount Cromer.—(Received at the Foreign Office, July 24.)

(No. 57.)

My Lord,

Addis Abbaba, June 3, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your Lordship's information, that owing to not have concluded my discussion with the King, and owing to bad weather, I start from Addis Abbaba to-morrow, the 4th instant.

In audience yesterday the King offered me the Grand Cross of the Star of Ethiopia, which, thanking him for the honour he wished to do me, I refused, telling him that the acceptance of decorations is contrary to Regulations of the English Government.

He said that he did not wish it to be thought that he had treated me differently to the other Representatives here, so I informed him that he need have no fear on that account, as the others were perfectly aware of English Regulations concerning decorations.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. L. HARRINGTON.

No. 37.

Mr. Harrington to Viscount Cromer.—(Received at Foreign Office, July 24.)

(No. 58.)

My Lord,

Camp Lagahardim, June 14, 1899.

IN continuation of my despatch No. 55, I have the honour to report, for your Lordship's information, that I have received the following news by letter and telephone concerning Leontieff:—

"On the 7th instant Leontieff was appointed Dejazmatch and given the country of Dejazmatch Tasamma, son of Ras Darghie.

"This country is situated to the north-east of Lake Rudolph, and comprises the following countries:

"Baco, Kaisso, Gurda, Kurie, Banata, Mali, Ouba, Chalia, Golda, Bunno, Bao, Kuli."

From information received by telephone from M. Ilg, Leontieff's province is bounded on the west by the Omo River, which constitutes the boundary between him and Ras Walda, Georgis' country; on the south by Fitarauri, Imani's country (Amarr, &c.); and on the east by Fitarauri, Apta Georgis.

As far as can be ascertained, this country, though perhaps not properly subjugated, is well within the limits of Abyssinian effective occupation. At any rate, it is well within what Menelek proposes as a frontier, and claims to have actually occupied (*vide* my despatch No. 51).

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. L. HARRINGTON.

No. 38.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 50.)

My Lord,

Camp, Bagan, June 29, 1899.

BY Foreign Office despatch No. 10 of the 12th November last, I was authorized to allow shooting parties to cross the border, under certain conditions, for purely sporting purposes in the Haud and nearer portions of the Ogaden.

Subsequently, in his despatch No. 18 of the 1st March to Lord Cromer, Mr. Harrington reported that the Emperor Menelek had no objection to English sportsmen crossing the Somali frontier for purposes of sport, and noted the conditions under which such permission was to be given.

This still leaves open the question of foreign sportsmen, of whom we have had several in the Protectorate during the last shooting season.

Next winter the eastern provinces of the Protectorate will certainly be closed to all sportsmen, and possibly the Habr Gerhajis country, in which are situated the favourite hunting grounds of the Khansa. There will then be left the western side of the Protectorate which is mostly within the reserve, and parties will be more than ever anxious to cross the border.

I cannot yet say whether it may not be desirable to refuse permission to foreign gentlemen to shoot this year in the Protectorate; possibly this may not be necessary in the case of individuals in the area I have indicated on the western side. In this case the question of the border is sure to come up. I would propose, subject to your Lordship's approval, to leave it to foreign gentlemen themselves to obtain permission from the Abyssinian authorities to shoot in Abyssinian territory, and to inform them that they will only be allowed to cross the border subject to such permission having been previously obtained.

I note that the Emperor Menelek objects to such parties as were advertised last year by Messrs. Lunn and Perowne being allowed to cross the Somali frontier.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER, *Consul-General,*
Somali Coast Protectorate.

No. 39.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 52. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Camp Dibbis, July 5, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to submit that portion of the Administration Report of the Somali Coast Protectorate for the year ending the 31st March, 1899, which deals with our relations with the tribes in and adjoining the Protectorate, and with other matters of political interest.

The General Administration Report will shortly follow.

2. On the 1st October, 1898, the control of the Protectorate, which had rested with the Government of India since its formation in 1884, was transferred to Her Majesty's Government.

Tribes under Zeyla.

3. The tribes under Zeyla are the Aysa and the Gadabursi.

Only one intertribal raid is reported during the year. Early in November the Gadabursi Rer Mahmood Nur raided simultaneously several Karias of the Aysa Mamasan Ba Abdurrahman in the vicinity of Simodi and in the Dibar-i-Wein Valley. At the latter place one man of the Ba Abdurrahman was killed, and a large number of goats, sheep, and cattle were driven off. This raid was a direct consequence of the occurrence which took place on the Zeyla-Jibuti road in August last, when

some men of the Gadabursi were set upon by a party of Aysa, and one of their number was wounded.

The Gadabursi seized the first opportunity of retaliating, as noted above.

Steps were taken to make the Rer Mahmood return the animals raided, and pay in full for damage done.

With this exception, the peace between the Aysa and the Gadabursi was maintained intact, and our relations with both tribes may be said to have been very satisfactory throughout the year.

4. Outside the port towns, and in the territories over which we do not exercise an effective control, the principle of "dia," or blood-money, continues to be recognized as the most effective means of checking intertribal warfare and bloodshed. With a view to placing a further check on murder in the interior, and thus strengthening the peace between the Aysa and the Gadabursi, the Elders of both tribes represented the desirability of raising the "dia" from 360 to 776 rupees, to correspond with the custom on the Berbera side. The matter was referred to a large and influential meeting of the Akils and Elders of both tribes, and being readily adopted, was approved by the Administration.

It is hoped that this measure, by enhancing the penalty for taking human life in tracts where we have not yet the means of bringing offenders to justice, will tend to the general pacification of the country.

Aysa.

5. This tribe is found in British, French, and Abyssinian territory; it is divided into numerous sub-tribes and sections, and dominates the Zeyla-Gildessa caravan route throughout its length.

The terms "white Aysa" and "black Aysa" are merely a territorial distinction; one part of a sub-tribe may be white, whilst another part is reckoned black. Roughly speaking, the range of hills running west of, and parallel to, the Jibuti-Harrar caravan road, is the line dividing the white Aysa from the black. Aysa living to the east of this line are white, those living to the west, black. It thus happens that, generally, Aysa inhabiting the French settlement are black, and those in the British are white.

6. Both with the Aysa and the Gadabursi our policy has been to abstain from interference in purely tribal matters so long as the general peace of the country is not disturbed, but in two instances it was found necessary to bring about a settlement in Aysa affairs to preserve the safety of the caravan routes and to prevent retaliatory raids.

In the first instance, a party of the Aysa Mamasan Ba Gorgora, with a few men of the Gadabursi Bhabr Eileh, in all some 120 strong, made a surprise attack in December on some Karias belonging to the Aysa Walaldone in the neighbourhood of Mandaha, on the caravan route. The losses on both sides came to three men killed and about fifty wounded; the cause of the attack was the non-payment of certain sums due on account of "dia," or blood-money. Elders of both sides were summoned to Zeyla, the dispute was referred to a representative assembly of Akils, and a peaceful settlement was effected.

The second instance was connected with a raid in which the Aysa Musa Rer Gallan carried off some thirty camels from the Aysa Urweina, and which was also due to the non-payment of "dia." As information reached Lieutenant Harold that the Urweina were making preparations to attack the Rer Gallan when both tribes were in our territory in January, he took prompt measures to prevent further hostilities, and a peaceful settlement was subsequently arrived at at Zeyla through his mediation.

7. Kalumbi Bulali and his uncle, Weil Ahmed, continued to cause some trouble; both are noted intriguers against the Administration. In September, Kalumbi and others of his tribe, the Aysa Mamasan Ba Forlabba, raided a small caravan going into Bulhar. Weil Ahmed was implicated in the raid, and probably instigated it. He was arrested and imprisoned, a measure which soon resulted in the return of the looted property. He was subsequently released on sureties being found for his good behaviour. He, however, again took to plotting mischief, and had to be again arrested. Kalumbi Bulali took refuge in the interior, where he could not be reached. He has but little influence now with his tribe, who look upon him as a fire-brand likely to get them into trouble with the Government.

Gadabursi.

This tribe inhabits the south-eastern portion of the Zeyla district and the country to the south and west of Jifr Medir. They are therefore subject to a dual jurisdiction, according as their migrations in search of water and pasture for their numerous herds and flocks take them; they are sometimes in British territory, sometimes in the territories practically controlled by the Abyssinians.

The different sections of the tribe have lived at peace with one another throughout the year. No instance of a tribal raid is reported, and they have kept the peace with the Aysa in spite of certain provocations from the latter. Their behaviour, as in the preceding year, has left nothing to be desired.

Tribes under Berbera and Bulhar.

9. These are the Habr Awal, the Habr Gerhajis, the Habr Toljaala, the Dolbahanta, and the Warsangli, with their numerous sub-tribes and sections. Berbera has also dealings with the Ogaden tribes who resort to our ports for purposes of trade, and rarely with the Mijjertein tribes in the Italian Protectorate.

The Somalis divide themselves into two sections: the Ishak and the Darod. To the former belong the Habr Awal, the Habr Gerhajis, and the Habr Toljaala, who claim descent from a noble Arab, by name Sheikh Ishak-bin-Ahmed, who is said to have settled in the country in the middle of the seventh century. The Dolbahanta, Ogaden, Warsangli, and Mijjertein trace their descent from another noble Arab (Sheikh Jiberti-bin-Ismail), who established himself in Somaliland at some date anterior to Sheikh Ishak-bin-Ahmed. He had a son named Darod, whose descendants are now called after him.

The Berbera tribes do not reckon the Aysa and the Gadabursi as true Somalis.

Habr Awal.

10. The peace so long existing between the various sections of the Habr Awal was only threatened on one occasion, when the Adan Aysa Rer Idleh and the Saad Musa Rer Hamood came into collision. A somewhat serious feud had previously existed between these two sections, and peace had hardly been restored, when the Rer Idleh made an unprovoked attack on the Rer Hamood, who in self-defence killed two of their aggressors. This occurred in August. Both sections were required to abstain from further hostilities, and to send in deputations to Berbera. An adjustment was made, peace was once more sworn, and has not since been disturbed.

About the same time the Ayal Yunis were engaged in a series of raids on the Aidagalleh, who replied with counter-raids. This matter is dealt with under the Habr Gerhajis.

The only other matter which calls for notice was an attack by a small party of the Mahomed Aysa on a Habr Toljaala Hassan Abdillah caravan, in which two of the latter were killed. The attack had connection with a dispute regarding the payment of certain road fees which the Mahomed Aysa levy on caravans passing through their territory. The tribe were ordered to pay compensation, which was done, and they were further given a stern warning.

This matter of road fees has occupied the attention of successive Administrators of the Protectorate, but so far no practical solution of the difficulty has been arrived at. The right is in most cases a long-established one; the fees levied are small, but they are a fruitful source of dispute. The question is again under consideration, and there are some hopes that, to commence with, the Mahomed Aysa may be found more willing to cease from these levies than they have hitherto been, as they now see that the collection of the fees causes friction with the Habr Toljaala, to whose attacks they are exposed when they move south with their flocks.

Habr Gerhajis.

11. This tribe is divided into two main divisions, the Habr Yunis and the Aidagalleh, each division being nominally under its Sultan, the former under Sultan

Nur and the latter under Sultan Deria Hassan. Neither of these Chiefs can be said to possess any real power or influence over their respective tribes, which are split up into sub-tribes and sections with little to unite them under a common head. Their authority, such as it is, rests on a patriarchal basis: a few of the sections more closely allied to them by blood ties are more or less obedient to their orders, but the greater part of their subjects not only refuse but resent their authority, and any attempt to enforce it leads either to an appeal to the Administration or to their ranging themselves under another leader, such as Madhar Hirsi, whose claims to the Sultanate of the Habr Yunis were rejected in favour of Sultan Nur.

12. Both in its internal affairs and in its relations with other tribes the conduct of this division has been satisfactory during the year under report. The principal matter calling for notice was the recurrence of hostilities between the Musa Ismail and the Habr Toljaala Rer Benin.

The feud between these two sections is of long standing, and various attempts have been made to bring about a settlement. Peace was sworn in November 1897, when the Rer Benin agreed to pay up their outstandings within a certain period, but owing to the then prevailing drought they were unable to keep to their promise. They were given further time, but showed little inclination to meet their obligations. In the meanwhile, it was with difficulty that the Musa Ismail were restrained from taking the matter into their own hands, and at last, their patience becoming exhausted, they made a raid on their opponents in November last. It is to the credit of the Rer Benin that they made no reprisals, but at once came in to complain of this breach of the peace. After some delay a deputation of the Musa Ismail was induced to come to Berbera, and negotiations for a settlement were once more set on foot. Finally, an adjustment of the respective claims was made, which left 60 camels and 300 sheep due by the Rer Benin. So far, they have only paid up but a fraction of what is due. This tribe has for some time ceased to send caravans into Berbera, consequently no pressure could be brought to bear on them in the ports.

13. In February last information was received that a force of the Musa Arreh had set out under the leadership of Stipendiary Akil Ahmed Mahomed Shirmakey to raid the Dolbahanta Rer Hagar. Enmity had previously existed between the Habr Yunis and certain sections of the Dolbahanta, but peace had been sworn. It was alleged that the Rer Hagar had failed to return their share of a previous loot, hence the expedition to recover it by force.

On the receipt of further information that the party had returned after raiding 60 camels which they had taken to Syk, some 50 miles from Berbera, a party of six sowars of the Camel Corps was dispatched with orders to arrest the leader and seize the looted animals. In this they were completely successful. The camels were brought in and restored to their owners, and after a short detention Ahmed Mahomed was released on promise of future good behaviour, in consideration of his father's long and faithful service as Chief Akil.

Numerous petty disputes between the various sections of the Habr Yunis were settled by our mediation at the request of the parties concerned.

Aidagalleh.

14. This division has given the most trouble, both as regards its external relations with other tribes and its internal dissensions.

15. Early in the year an old feud between the Aidagalleh Yunis and the Habr Awal Mahomed Aysa gave rise to a series of raids and counter-raids in the vicinity of the caravan routes, and it was deemed advisable to interfere. The claims on both sides were referred to arbitration, property was mutually restored, and peace was finally concluded.

16. In August the loot of a horse by the Ayal Yunis was the signal for repeated raids between certain sections of the Aidagalleh and the Ayal Yunis. The Ayal Ahmed, who had hitherto taken no part in the disturbance, were roused to action by an unprovoked attack on the part of the Aidagalleh, who carried off a quantity of their live-stock. Ergoes were dispatched to both parties with orders to effect a mutual restitution of looted property. The Ayal Yunis and Ayal Ahmed at once complied, but the Aidagalleh, owing to the professed inability of Sultan Deria to bring pressure to bear on his sub-tribes, were more difficult to deal with. Finally, after much delay, a deputation of the Aidagalleh, headed by Sultan Deria in person, appeared in Berbera. The claims of both sides were heard, and an adjustment was made. Sultan Deria's

want of control over his people has hitherto stood in the way of the satisfaction of the claims of the Ayal Ahmed and Ayal Yunis.

17. A long-standing feud between the Yunis and Ba Delo, which at one time seemed likely to assume wider dimensions, was finally settled. Loot was returned and peace was sworn.

Numerous internal disputes which were likely to involve other tribes were also settled by the Administration.

Arab.

18. Although of different descent to the Habr Gerhajis the Arab have, from long residence with this tribe, become more or less identified with them. In 1896, however, they expressed their intention of once more becoming a united tribe and wished to reoccupy their ancient grazing lands. As these had in course of time been absorbed by the surrounding tribes, the question of the restoration of land became one of no small difficulty. As a temporary measure arrangements were made with Sheikh Mattar, of Hargaisa, to let them water from his wells for six months. As they showed an inclination to settle permanently at Hargaisa after the expiration of this period, and were a cause of continual annoyance to Sheikh Mattar, they were required to vacate the wells, the use of which had been temporarily allowed them as a matter of favour not as a matter of right. The Arab have since scattered themselves again amongst the other tribes, where their presence is not altogether appreciated. They are notorious for predatory habits, and many of the internal dissensions amongst the Habr Gerhajis tribes must be laid to their charge.

Habr Toljaala.

19. This is one of the refractory tribes we have to deal with. Their conduct during] the past year (?) shows an improvement on that of former years in that they have not been guilty of any fresh aggressions, except in the case of a small loot by the Musa Abokr on a Hawia caravan. They have, however, made but little attempt to liquidate the heavy liabilities in which their predatory habits of former years have involved them.

20. The sections most deeply involved are the Musa Abokr and certain sections of the Nuh, such as the Rer Abokr Ahmed, and Rer Benin, the Nabadth Barreh, and the Rer Harbeh.

The Musa Abokr are paying off their outstandings by means of a levy on their caravans entering the port towns. At the present rate of collection they should be able to start clear again in three years.

Our relations with the Nabadth Barreh and the Rer Harbeh were fully explained in paragraph 6 of last year's Confidential Memorandum No. 546 on this portion of the Administration Report for 1897-98. Noted robbers and caravan raiders, these two sections had been practically under ban since the earliest days of the Protectorate. The change of policy which I determined to adopt in dealing with them last year, by which they were allowed the use of our ports, subject to good behaviour, and an honest attempt to pay off their liabilities to the best of their power, has been so far successful that the fine for the murder of the Biladiyah has been paid up, and a small portion of outstandings recovered. Further, both sections for the first time for years show a clean sheet. We could hardly expect more of people who are in an almost impoverished condition. Now that they have commenced to send small caravans into Berbera, it is hoped that the way has been paved towards a more or less permanent reform in their habits.

Dolbahanta.

21. The Dolbahanta, like all the tribes of the Darod branch inhabiting the eastern portion of the Protectorate, have had but few relations with the Administration so far as tribal matters are concerned. Owing to the distance of their country from the coast it is but rarely that tribal disputes are brought to our notice. Raids between the various sections of the Dolbahanta and their neighbours are of frequent occurrence, but as the combatants are generally in a state of chronic hostility with each other, they do not usually appeal to the Administration.

Large Dolbahanta caravans enter Berbera during the trading season, and no complaints of molestation on the way have been made during the year under report.

22. Towards the close of the year the proceedings of Haji Muhammad Abdullah, a Mullah who had acquired considerable influence amongst the Dolbahanta tribes, began to attract our attention. The recent raid by the Habr Yunis Musa Arreh on the Dolbahanta Rer Hagar first brought him prominently to the notice of the Administration. Early in March he suddenly appeared in the Habr Yunis country with a large following, nominally with the object of recovering the animals which had been carried off by the Musa Arreh. As this had already been done by the Administration, and the camels been restored to their owners, there was no apparent reason for his staying longer in the Habr Yunis country and he was required to withdraw. Instead, however, of returning to his country he took up his quarters at Burao, still in Habr Yunis parts, where one of his first acts was to set up Madhar Hirsi as Sultan of the Habr Yunis in opposition to Sultan Nur. Having thus secured a hold over Habr Yunis affairs he retired temporarily to the Dolbahanta, leaving, it is said, a small party of armed adherents at Burao.

The subsequent proceedings of this individual and the possible objects he may have in view, have formed the subject of separate despatches to your Lordship.

Ogaden.

23. The enmity which has for so long existed between the Habr Gerhajis and the Ogaden Rer Ali and Rer Haroun has been the cause of several raids and counter-raids between these tribes, occurring for the most part when the Habr Gerhajis are beyond our frontier.

The Habr Gerhajis have been warned from molesting or making reprisals on the Rer Ali and Rer Haroun. Similar warnings have, it is understood, been given the latter by the Harrar authorities, but so far these warnings have had but little effect, and it is too much to expect of the Habr Gerhajis that they will refrain from reprisals when subject to raids whenever their orbits bring them within reach of their opponents.

It is desirable that this state of affairs should be brought to a close, for one amongst other reasons that feuds on or near the border are likely to raise frontier questions. There are indications that both sides are getting tired of this petty warfare, and that they may be inclined to come to an agreement on the principle of bygones being bygones. On reaching Hargaisa I shall see if anything can be done towards this desirable end with the consent and assistance of the Harrar authorities.

Jibuti.

24. Our relations with the Administration of the neighbouring French colony remained friendly throughout the year.

Jibuti has dealings with two tribes, the Black Aysa and the Danakil, but chiefly with the former. Thanks to the indiscriminate sale of arms which the French have allowed at their port, both these tribes now possess a quantity of modern rifles of precision. Arms are also freely exported from Jibuti to the Arabian ports in the Red Sea, whence they find their way to the hands of the tribes under Turkish rule.

The danger to our Protectorate from this open market for arms at Jibuti has often been brought to notice. There is little to prevent these arms finding their way across our border whenever the Aysa and Gadabursi take it into their heads to require them, and were a serious rupture to occur in the peace between these two tribes, we may expect an immediate demand for arms to follow.

Some restrictions appear to have been placed on the sale of arms during the recent troubles in French territory, but if they ever affected the export to the Arabian coast their effect was but transitory.

For several months the Black Aysa were at war with the Danakil. In August a large caravan of Danakil camels, laden with arms and ammunition for King Menelek, was attacked on the way to Harrar by the Black Aysa, and almost completely wrecked. As a result of the unsettled state of affairs brought about by the conflict between the Black Aysa and the Danakil, and later on by the difficulties

the French themselves encountered with the former, the Jibuti-Harrar road was practically closed for the greater portion of the year. The Black Aysa, who on the whole got the worst of the fighting, finally made peace with their opponents in December, a kindred feeling of opposition to the French railway probably conducing to this end.

25. The troubles of the French with the Black Aysa commenced early in February, with a series of attacks on the railway line. On the 1st February an Italian workman was murdered at kilom. 22; on the 4th two Italians were massacred; and on the 22nd a camp, established at kilom. 62, was surprised, seven Europeans and some natives being killed.

These attacks seem to have found the authorities unprepared; in the previous November, failing to come to terms with the Black Aysa over the railway question, they had dismissed the whole of their Akil establishment, and were thus out of touch with the tribes in the interior.

Armed parties hastily enrolled were sent out by the Administration and the Railway Company to protect the line and scour the country. These raided any Aysa Karias they could find, carrying off camels, sheep, and goats, which were sold by auction at Jibuti.

Steps were also taken for the protection of the head-quarter station, where, on more than one occasion, the near approach of Aysa raiding parties caused something nearly approaching a panic.

The Railway Company seem to have acted throughout independently of, if not in opposition to, the Administration; they allowed their employés to get quite out of hand, and these committed acts for which it was afterwards deemed expedient to compensate the Aysa.

On the 2nd March a raiding party of railway employés, consisting of some forty Soudanese, Abyssinians, and Somalis, with five Europeans, under the leadership of an ex-Russian officer, crossed over into British territory and raided two karias near the Kassinath post, killing six persons and wounding four, the party then made off towards Jibuti with a quantity of sheep and goats. The staunch action of the Havildar in charge of our post prevented a further probable loss of life. A protest was immediately lodged with the Governor of Jibuti, and a demand made for the restitution of the raided animals. These were mostly returned at once, but the question of compensation for the families of the sufferers by this outrage still remains unsettled.

On the 13th March reinforcements commenced to arrive at Jibuti, and shortly afterwards M. Chefneux, one of the concessionnaires of the railway, took over the charge of its affairs. Matters then began to mend in the French Settlement, and work on the line was pushed on with renewed vigour.

The above facts brought about a change in the Administration of the Colony. M. Martineau was appointed Governor of Jibuti in succession to M. La Garde, who had hitherto combined the dual functions of Governor and Minister at the Court of the Emperor Menelek. Various changes, too, were made in the staff.

By the close of the year 54 kilom. of the railway had been finished, trains running up to the 37th kilom. From the 54th to the 64th kilom. the road has been levelled, ready for the laying of the permanent way.

Despite the activity which followed M. Chefneux's assumption of the control of its affairs, doubts are still entertained in some quarters as to whether the railway will ever reach completion. At different stages of its development financial difficulties have been experienced, the opposition of the Aysa has been checked, but not yet overcome, and it is difficult to altogether set aside the conjecture that the recent action of the black Aysa was in some way indirectly countenanced from Abyssinia. On the other hand, there can be no doubt that every endeavour is being made to carry on the line as rapidly as possible; the workmen now employed are said to number 1,000.

Abyssinia.

26. Amicable relations were maintained with the Harrar authorities in the few matters which formed the subject of correspondence during the year.

In December a party of four Abyssinians and four Somalis under the son of Ughaz Nur came into the Dibar-i-Wein Valley to recover a stolen camel, and returned after helping themselves to thirteen sheep, which they alleged were given them in satis-

faction of claims. The matter was referred to Harrar, but no action was taken there to return the animals. A reply to a further reference is awaited.

The subject of Abyssinians shooting elephants in the Reserve attracted attention, and steps were taken to provide against an infringement of the Reserve in future through Her Majesty's Agent with King Menelek.

The imposition of a tax at Gildessa on all Aysa and Gadabursi camels coming from and to Zeyla on account of the misconduct of certain sections of the Black Aysa in French territory, acting detrimentally on the Zeyla trade, a representation was made in the matter to the King by Her Majesty's Agent, and the impediment to our trade was removed.

27. The tribes have settled down quietly to the state of affairs brought about by the recent boundary between the Protectorate and Abyssinia. The tribes who were excluded from British territory, as well as those crossing the border on their annual migrations in search of pasture and water, appear to have been well treated by the Abyssinians. So far no complaints to the contrary have reached me.

It is, perhaps, unfortunate for the Protectorate that events in Abyssinia should continue to detain Ras Makunan from his post at Harrar. The Acting Governor, Garachmatch Bante, has not his influence and does not carry his weight; indeed, he generally styles himself as Ras Makunan's agent in Harrar. With a strong Governor in that province any questions requiring settlement between the Protectorate and Harrar might be capable of easy and speedy solution. Happily such questions have been remarkably few, being limited to those noted above.

28. Owing to the insecurity of the French route to Harrar, Ato Josef, King Menelek's agent, passed through Zeyla during the year 5,000 boxes of ammunition, 2,000 rifles, and about 1,500 swords for the King's service.

Owing to the same cause, too, merchants of Jibuti made use of our port for the conveyance of goods to Harrar, thus bringing an access of trade to Zeyla.

Miscellaneous.

29. In July a filibustering expedition of forty-five persons, chiefly Austrians and Turks under the leadership of Carl Inger, alias Suleiman, attempted to land on the coast at Hanganwarra, some 25 miles to the east of Zeyla. This was effectually prevented by the prompt and energetic action taken by Lieutenant Harold, who proceeded to the spot in a native craft with a few policemen, and turned the expedition back to Aden. Failing to obtain permission at Aden to land on the coast the party proceeded to Jibuti. There they gave the French some trouble, and soon came into collision with the authorities. Carl Inger's dealings with his party were exposed, and many of his followers finding they had been duped deserted him. He was finally sold up and returned to Austria. From the statements of his followers his object appeared to be to establish himself as King of the Somalis in some portion of the country to the south of our Protectorate, but in what exact locality has never been ascertained.

30. If I except the movement in the Dolbahanta headed by the Mullah Muhammad Abdullah, which only attracted attention towards the close of the year, and the full import of which is not yet accurately understood, the year under report has been, like its predecessor, one of comparative quiet and devoid of unusual incident. The general peace of the country has been maintained; several long-standing feuds have been brought to a satisfactory termination; and certain of the tribes particularly noted for their predatory habits and general disposition for mischief, have given promise for reform by better conduct during the year. Such raids as have been reported are the natural outcome of the wild spirit ever ruling the Somali in his inland karia. No tribal combinations took place, and the safety of the caravan routes was preserved. As I have noted in previous Reports, it will be many years before we can look for a cessation of inter-tribal raids in the interior where we have not yet exercised any effective control over the tribes.

Jibuti continues to increase in population and importance. Its rivalry with Zeyla was less marked during the year under report, owing to the difficulties the French encountered with their Aysa tribes over the railway question. The future of the Settlement would seem to be entirely dependent on the railway; but little trade enters the town from inland, and it is at present practically supported by the capital expended on the railway works.

The troubles with the Aysa in French territory did not spread to the Protec-

torate; the situation, however, was one which required careful watching, and which might easily have led to complications. As was but natural our Aysa tribes sympathized with the black Aysa across the border in their opposition to the railway scheme, but steps were taken to prevent this feeling taking any tangible form, and the tribes held aloof throughout. Strict injunctions were given to the Aysa Akils in this connection, and these were faithfully carried out.

In conclusion, I would wish to record my thorough appreciation of the assistance I have received from Lieutenant Harold, the Acting Consul at Zeyla, and Lieutenant Cordeaux, Acting Vice-Consul at Berbera, to whose tact and patience in dealing with tribal matters, and reconciling often the most conflicting interests, the successful management of the various tribes and the peaceful character of the year are to be chiefly attributed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

No. 40.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 131.)
My Lord,

Cairo, July 10, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to inclose the original of the Suakin Agreement, which was signed this morning. I also inclose two copies of the official Journal in which the Agreement was published.

At the instance of the Egyptian Minister for Foreign Affairs I have ventured to make one or two verbal changes in the text as originally drafted (see inclosure to my despatch No. 112 of the 18th June), but they are not of sufficient importance to necessitate my drawing your Lordship's special attention to them.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CROMER.

Inclosure in No. 40.

Extract from the Egyptian "Journal Officiel" of July 10, 1899.

Agreement.

WHEREAS, under our Agreement made the 19th day of January, 1899, relative to the future administration of the Soudan, it is provided by Article VIII that the jurisdiction of the Mixed Tribunals shall not extend nor be recognized for any purpose whatsoever in any part of the the Soudan except in the town of Suakin;

And whereas no Mixed Tribunal has ever been established at Suakin and it has been found to be inexpedient to establish any such tribunal in that locality, by reason notably of the expense which the adoption of this measure would occasion;

And whereas grievous injustice is caused to the inhabitants of Suakin by the absence of any local jurisdiction for the settlement of their disputes, and it is expedient that the town of Suakin should be placed upon the same footing as the rest of the Soudan;

And whereas we have decided to modify our said Agreement accordingly in manner hereinafter appearing:

Now, it is hereby agreed and declared by and between the Undersigned duly authorized for that purpose, as follows:—

Article I. Those provisions of our Agreement of the 19th day of January, 1899, by which the town of Suakin was excepted from the general régime established by the said Agreement for the future administration of the Soudan, are hereby abrogated.

Done at Cairo, the 10th July, 1899.

(Signed) BOUTROS GHALI.
CROMER.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 24.)

(No. 134.)

My Lord,

Cairo, July 13, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith copy of a Report, with inclosures, which has been addressed to me by Major Walter, giving the results of his mission for the delimitation of the frontier between the Egyptian Soudan and Erythræa. The inclosures to this Report comprise copies of the Agreement entered into by Major Walter and the Italian Representative, Captain Bongiovanni, and a Schedule defining the frontier, as finally marked by pillars.

I have given copies of these documents to the Egyptian War Office, for purposes of reference.

Major Walter appears to have executed the duty intrusted to him in a very satisfactory manner.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CROMER.

Inclosure 1 in No. 41.

Major Walter to Viscount Cromer.

My Lord,

Cairo, July 8, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to report that, in accordance with your Lordship's instructions, I proceeded to Suakin by the mail which left Suez on the 23rd March, and there awaited the Sirdar's arrival.

The Sirdar arrived on the 12th April, and the same day I received his instructions concerning the delimitation.

Previous to the Sirdar's arrival I had been instructed from Cairo to place myself in communication with his Excellency the Governor of Erythræa, with a view to fixing the time and place of my meeting with the Italian Representative. I suggested that we should meet at Karora on the 20th April, and my suggestion being accepted, I proceeded from Suakin on the 17th April to Akik, *en route* to Karora. I arrived at the latter place on the evening of the 19th April, and found that the Italian Representative, Captain Bongiovanni, had arrived.

The two following days (20th and 21st) were taken up in discussing the number and position of the pillars to be erected in the immediate vicinity of the Karora Wells, and on the 23rd April we proceeded together to J. Halibai to erect there a pillar. From the 24th April to the 2nd May we took different routes, and, meeting again at Atfa on the 2nd May, continued together till we arrived at Khasm Ambacta (9th May).

I attach a Schedule showing where pillars have been erected. They are few in number, but I am of opinion that they sufficiently define the frontier in those parts where natural features do not do so sufficiently clearly.

Captain Bongiovanni had some knowledge of the country we were about to traverse, and suggested that Khor Dada should form the frontier-line from the Baraka to J. Iskenie. This proposal I acceded to, as it virtually grants free grazing rights to the Arabs in Egyptian territory over 25 miles of the Baraka. From Jebel Iskenie the frontier-line follows very approximately the ideal line laid down in the Protocol.

I have the honour to attach two copies of the Agreement *re* the delimitation, one in Italian and one in English, signed by Captain Bongiovanni and myself. Captain Bongiovanni has retained similar copies for transmittal to his Government.

I arrived at Sabderat on the 31st May, and on the 1st June took leave of Captain Bongiovanni, and proceeded direct to Kassala, arriving there on the 2nd June.

On the 5th June I started on the return journey to Suakin, reaching that place on the 18th June.

On the return journey I was able to map in a considerable tract of country to the west of the frontier, and further, following the Sirdar's verbal instructions, was able to trace the course of the Odi and Langueb for some considerable distance.

I found on arrival at Suakin that the steamer advertised to sail on the 20th June was not expected till the 28th June, owing to delays caused by quarantine, &c. Eventually I left Suakin on the 3rd July—the first opportunity. I regret extremely the delay of

a fortnight in my return to Cairo. It was due to causes wholly and entirely beyond my power to avoid.

I propose to forward to your Lordship in the course of the next two or three days a map of the country in the immediate vicinity of the frontier. I have also under hand a map on a larger scale, giving more detail, which I propose to forward to the Egyptian War Office on completion.

I have received from the treasuries at Suakin and Kassala sums amounting to £ E. 112 and 223 piastres, which I have expended on the hire of transport, &c. I have the honour to attach an account showing how the money has been expended.

In conclusion, I should like to record that my relations with Captain Bongiovanni were of a most cordial nature, and that I am indebted to him for many attentions, which, indeed, facilitated our work.

I have, &c.
(Signed) W. J. WALTER,
Captain and Brevet-Major.

Inclosure 2 in No. 41.

Agreement.

FROM the point of junction of the Ambacta with the Baraka the line of frontier follows the course of the latter (Baraka) up stream to its junction with the Dada (Khasm Dada), and then, turning in a north-westerly direction, follows the Dada throughout its course to its source at the foot of the Eskénié range of hills.

The line now turns southwards and follows the watershed between the streams flowing directly to the Baraka on the east and those flowing to the Gash and Langueb on the west. This watershed is defined by the Eskénié, Koreb, and Ta-et (Taiyé) ranges of hills, by Jebel Meesat, and finally by Jebel Benéifer.

From J. Benéifer the line of frontier passes in almost a direct line to the Sabderat range, being defined south of Benéifer by the low hill Tedelaié, by Jebel Afada-Gumbit, by the hills Gelmabia and Dobadub, and finally by the peak called Deberenis, on the Sabderat range.

From Deberenis the line crosses the Sabderat range by J. Eunice to the peak called Quasana, and thence crosses Khor Sabderat to a point west-north-west on the range south of the Khor. This point has been marked by a pillar.

(Signed) SIMONE BONGIOVANNI.
W. J. WALTER, Captain and
Brevet-Major.

Sabderat, June 1, 1899.

Inclosure 3 in No. 41.

Schedule showing the Pillars erected on the Italo-Soudan Frontier between Ras Kasar (Red Sea Coast) and Sabderat.

1st Section.—*Ras Kasar to Khasm Ambacta.*

1. *Ras Kasar*.—A pillar built of stone and cement on the coast.
2. *J. Halibai*.—A pillar of stones.
3. *J. Gabir Kelli*.—A pillar of stones.
- 4 and 5.—*Karora*.—These pillars are erected on either bank of the Karora, some 600 yards west of the principal wells. The Karora west (up stream) of these pillars is in Italian territory.
6. *J. Abei Nedu (Dumbobiet)*.—A pillar of stones on the central hill of the group.
7. *J. Dob*.—A pillar of stones on the watershed between the Aitara (Aiet) and the Tabbeh. This watershed clearly defined by J. Dob (a conical peak). The pillar erected close to track taken by Arabs crossing from one valley to the other.
8. *Shinkoolat Pass*.—A pillar of stones erected some 200 yards south of pass. This pass crosses the watershed between the Arerib (Mashail) and the Adobaha.
- 9 and 10. *Khor Afta*.—Two pillars erected on prominent peaks on either side of gorge through which the Afta passes.

11 and 12. *Khasm Derehib*.—Two pillars erected on either side of the junction of Derehib with Afta. This junction is from 5 to 6 miles from Pillars 9 and 10.

13. *West of J. Robobo*.—A pillar erected on the watershed between Afta (Looi) and Ambacta. The Khors rising from this watershed, and falling respectively into these streams, are both called Derehib.

14. *J. Aar*.—A pillar of stones erected on the southernmost peak of the range called J. Aar.

15. A pillar erected on the low range of hills forming watershed between Tebhaiteit and Ambacta (between the Baraka and J. Aar).

16 and 17. *Baraka (Khasm Ambacta)*.—Two stone pillars erected just north of and on either bank of Baraka, at its junction with Ambacta.

2nd Section.—*Khasm Ambacta and Sabderat*.

18. *Khasm Dada*.—A pillar of stones on the north bank of Dada at its junction with the Baraka.

19. *J. Koreb*.—A pillar of stones on the neck joining a conical peak (Rabussom) to the southernmost group of J. Koreb. The frontier passes west of J. Koreb till it joins it by this col.

20. *Near J. Meesat*.—A pillar of stones erected on the southern extremity of the range called Ya-et (Taiyé It).

21. *Tedelai-é*.—A pillar of stones on the low hill of this name.

22. *Gelmabia*.—A pillar of stones on the low hill of this name.

23. *Dobadob*.—A pillar of stones on a conspicuous hill of this name.

24 and 25. *Quasana*.—A pillar of stones on the north of the Khor running between the two groups of hills called Sabderat (Tam-rat). This pillar should be visible to any one entering the gorge from the west. Another pillar erected half way up the hill side.

26 and 27. Two pillars on the south side of the above-mentioned gorge, one above the other.

(Signed) W. J. WALTER,
Captain and Brevet-Major, Lancashire Fusiliers.

Cairo, July 12, 1899.

No. 42.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 31.)

(No. 55. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Hargaisa, July 16, 1899.

IN my despatch No. 49, Confidential, of the 16th ultimo, I informed your Lordship of the state of affairs amongst the Habr Yunis tribes, and noted that I was awaiting an opportunity of ascertaining the attitude that would be assumed by Sultan Nur.

This, I regret to say, is one of declared hostility.

I waited for some time after he had returned to his country, and then sent him a civil letter, pointing out that he had not as yet come to visit me, as is usual when my camp is in his limits, and desiring him to come in, as there were several matters I wished to discuss with him. This was on the 27th ultimo, and my camp was then at Bagan, in Habr Yunis territory.

No reply was sent to this letter, but on the 10th instant the camel sowar who had conveyed it to Sultan Nur returned to my camp near Hargaisa without his camel, arms, and uniform, of which he reported he had been stripped by order of Sultan Nur. According to his statement he made his escape just as he was about to be sent to the Mullah Muhammad Abdullah.

I at once wrote Sultan Nur a stern letter of warning, which I dispatched by an Aida-galleh messenger. In this letter I demanded the immediate return of the sowar's effects, pointed out to Sultan Nur that he could not contend against us, and that it was foolish of him to be led away by the ill-advice of designing persons, adding that if he takes heed in time, and comes into my camp now, he will be given "aman" to come and go, otherwise, if he continues this attitude he has assumed, the consequences will fall on his own shoulders, and they will be severe.

I thought it better to give him another chance of clearing himself, if he would, for several reasons. In the first place, we are not prepared for active measures yet, and it

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was necessary to take notice of such an act as he had just committed; again, I know him to be a weak, vain man, easily led, whose head has been turned by the praise and flattery showered upon him by the Mullah, and by the position he imagines he has attained of supremacy over his tribe through the Mullah's influence.

If he comes in, I propose to inflict a fine on him for his conduct to the sowar who took him my letter. If he continues his present attitude of hostility, and the measures I shall take at our port towns in stopping his supplies do not bring him to reason, I can see no other course open but to proceed against him actively early in the cold season, if he be still within our reach.

I have already informed your Lordship that the Habr Yunis are divided, and that this time last month only the eastern sections of the tribe had so far been affected by the Mullah's movement, the western sections awaiting the return of Sultan Nur. Nur had called a large meeting of the tribe for the 22nd instant at Odweina, and I had arranged to have a man present to report what takes place. Yesterday I received letters from Haji Musa, the Head of the Mullah community of Hahiya, to whom allusion is made in the concluding portion of my despatch No. 49 of the 16th ultimo, informing me that the westerly sections of the Habr Yunis, including the principal portion of Sultan Nur's own tribe, the Rer Segullah, together with the Ishak sections, bordering on the Golis, amongst whom I passed, and whose Elders I interviewed on my way here, had bound themselves together to keep clear of all disturbance. They are said to have told Sultan Nur that they are dependent on Berbera for their supplies, and that they do not intend to get into difficulties with us on his account, and to have told him pointedly that if he does not cease from making strife in the country, and oppressing people by his exactions, he had better clear off, as they would oppose him. If he remained quiet, and did not oppose the Government, they would accept him as Sultan, otherwise they would have nothing to do either with him or with Madhar Hirsi. As regards the Mullah, they are said to have declared that they belong to the Kadiriyah sect; that of Haji Musa, of Hahiya, and Sheikh Mattar, of Hargaisa, as opposed to the Salihiyah, that of the Dolbahanta Mullah, and that they intended to adhere to it. The reports went on to say that finding himself opposed in this quarter, and by his own section, Sultan Nur hastily left eastwards, and is supposed to have repaired to Burao, whence he will probably rejoin the Mullah.

As previously reported, the eastern sections of the Habr Yunis are with the Mullah, but the position has so far improved that the westerly sections, whose attitude had before been doubtful, are now said to have definitely declared against Sultan Nur and the Mullah. At this point there is now every reason to believe this movement will now stop in its movement westwards, leaving the line of division as reported in my previous despatch.

The Aidagalleh—the other large division of the Habr Gerhajis—are reported to be unaffected by the movement. They came freely into my camp on my way to Hargaisa, and I am expecting their Sultan—Sultan Deria—here in a few days. The Habr Awal are coming in from miles around. I have now the leading men of several of their sections in here to perform the feudal custom of “dibaltig,” or mounted parade of allegiance.

Sheikh Mattar, the Head of the religious community here, is entirely on the side of law and order, and exerts considerable influence over the Habr Awal tribes in this direction, one and all of whom are opposed to the Mullah's faction.

Meanwhile, I hear of dissensions between the Mullah and Sultan Nur, partly owing to the latter having raided the Habr Toljaala Gashanbur. Madhar Hirsi, Nur's rival, is said to have again gone to the Mullah with a present of sixty camels, and it is possible that he may be again declared Sultan of the Habr Yunis to the detriment of Nur. Whether he is so declared or not will not affect the position to any great extent so long as the westerly sections of the tribe hold aloof.

From the Dolbahanta reports have been received that the Mullah has arrested two of our Akils, and seized the rifles of four Biladiyabs who happened to be in the vicinity with caravans. Whether the Akils went to the Mullah of their own accord, or whether they were seized by their tribes, who are hostile, and sent to him, has not yet been ascertained.

In consequence of this seizure of arms, I have had to prohibit Biladiyabs from accompanying caravans to the eastern provinces, and warnings have been issued to caravans to avoid that route.

Steps have also been taken to prevent as far as possible supplies reaching the Mullah from our coast towns.

Reports from the Dolbahanta are also current in Berbera that the Mullah and Sultan Nur between them are bent on stopping all caravans entering Berbera for the next six months, with a view to starve the trade of the town. This they will not be able to do. The main caravan route to the Ogaden from the Jerato Pass through Adadleh is in the

hands of sections of the Habr Yunis opposed to Sultan Nur, and caravans using this road could, if necessary, take a more westerly one through Habr Awal country, whilst caravans using the road from Bohotele to Sheikh could diverge either to the Jerato route, or eastwards through the country of the Mahmood Girad. We may, however, expect to hear that some caravans have been looted or detained in the direction of the Dolbahanta.

Reports continue to reach me that the Mullah Muhammad Abdullah has received letters from the Sheikh Salih in Mecca bringing him to task for his proceedings, and warning him against creating disturbances in the country, or moving in any way against us. It is further said that Sultan Nur has been told by the Mullah to put a check on his actions.

Reports in Somaliland are generally so various and so conflicting that considerable caution has to be exercised in giving them credence, but I am inclined to believe that there is some truth in these reports about the attitude of Sheikh Salih, and the religious sects who are opposed to the Mullah, some of whose representatives, such as Haji Musa, went to Mecca for the purpose of ascertaining how matters stand, assure that they are true. How far the Mullah's attitude will be affected remains to be seen.

A Habr Awal man returning from the Ogaden reports that about ten days ago a party of thirty of the Mullah's followers, some armed with fire-arms, appeared amongst the Ogaden Rer Haroun, told them that the Mullah would soon be with them, and requiring them to collect a number of eating camels, which they proceeded to do. He further stated that the Mullahs of the Rer Ali, the neighbouring tribe to the Rer Haroun, had declared against the Mullah. If this information is true, it would point to what we have heard before, that this movement is directed against the Abyssinians. I have communicated this information to M. Gerolimato, and suggested that he should give it to the Governor of Harrar for what it is worth.

Raids and counter-raids are taking place between the Mahomed Aysa and the Habr Toljaala Noh in connection with the agitation raised by this Mullah, and one result of the unsettled feeling in the eastern portion of the Protectorate will be that the troublesome sections of the Noh, who were unusually quiet and well-behaved last year, will break out anew, and give us further trouble on their own account.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

No. 43.

Sir R. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received July 31.)

(No. 138.)

My Lord,

Cairo, July 24, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith an extract, with translation, from an Austrian newspaper, in which it is stated, on the authority of the "Temesvar Zeitung," that the notorious Soliman Inger, whose exploits at Suakin and Harrar, and more recently in Somaliland, are well-known to your Lordship, has once more succeeded in obtaining funds for a new African venture, and contemplates starting in the course of next month.

I hope to be able to obtain shortly from the same source from which this extract has reached me, further particulars as to the probable destination of Inger's new expedition.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

Inclosure in No. 43.

Newspaper Extract.

(Translation.)

THE EMIR SOLIMAN INGER.—We hear from Temesvar, under date of the 4th instant, the following:—

The notorious "Emir," Soliman Inger, who suffered financial shipwreck with his African expedition, will soon make himself heard of again. He has succeeded, with the support of four black Somali Sheiks who had come to Europe expressly, in interesting a Syndicate of foreign colonial firms in connections with Somaliland, and he thus has obtained means for setting up his rule in the African coast district. The

Emir, who returned to this his native town yesterday from a journey abroad, visited the office of the "Temesvar Journal," and communicated the above, but refused to give the name of the country where he had managed to scrape together the money for his colonial enterprise, which has already once ended in failure.

His exterior clearly shows the favourable turn of his fortunes; the confidence with which he describes the success which is assured to his plans under any conditions, sounds still more remarkable.

He proposes to go south with his new expedition about the middle of August.

No. 44.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir N. O'Connor.

(No. 185.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 1, 1899.

THE Turkish Ambassador called on the 15th instant, and was received by Sir T. Sanderson in my absence. His Excellency said he was instructed to inquire whether there was any truth in a rumour that had reached the Porte that Her Majesty's Government were in negotiation with Italy for the purchase of Massowah.

Sir T. Sanderson assured him that such an idea had not occurred at present to either Government, and that the only negotiation had been for the settlement of some Tariff questions on the frontier between the Italian possession of Erythræa and the Soudan.

His Excellency went on to ask whether there was any foundation for a rumour that had also reached the Porte, that Her Majesty's Government contemplated separating Suakin from Egypt. He was instructed to say that if there was any such intention the Porte must protest against it, as Suakin was an ancient possession of Turkey, and had been conferred on the Khedives by Firmans from the Sultan.

Anthopoulos Pasha was told, in reply, that there had been no change in the position of Suakin beyond one with regard to the jurisdiction of the Mixed Tribunals. Suakin was considered to be a portion of the Soudan; but whereas the Mixed Tribunals had no jurisdiction in the rest of the Soudan, especial exception had been made in regard to the town of Suakin. It had been found, however, that the Mixed Tribunals were not prepared to make arrangements for the trial of cases there, and in order to insure the proper administration of justice, the special exception in regard to the competency of the Mixed Tribunals for Suakin had been withdrawn, and justice would be administered there on the same footing as in the rest of the Soudan.

Anthopoulos Pasha took some exception to the inclusion of Suakin in the Soudan. He maintained that Suakin was a portion of Egypt, and said that the Kaïmakam had always hitherto been appointed by the Khedive. Sir T. Sanderson said that Suakin had for years been defended by the British and Egyptian forces against the Dervishes; that the Kaïmakam, though appointed by the Khedive, had always been a British officer; and he repeated that, as far as we knew, nothing would be changed in the position of Suakin beyond the agreement just mentioned, that the jurisdiction of the Mixed Tribunals would not in future extend to it.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 45.

Mr. Raikes to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 4.)

(No. 154.)

My Lord,

Brussels, August 3, 1899.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch, No. 81 of the 20th ultimo, inclosing an extract from the "Matin" of the 24th June last, respecting a Belgian commercial expedition to the Upper Ouellé and Nile districts, M. de Cuvelier, as Sir Francis Plunkett informed your Lordship in his despatch No. 101 of the 20th May last, stated that the object of the expedition then mentioned was to establish a market more or less opposite to Bor, and he assures me that it is this expedition to which reference is made in the "Matin."

None of the six names given in the extract are contained in the lists, which have been published in the newspapers which I have seen, of passengers who left by the steam-ship "Léopoldville" on the 29th June, but an Antwerp paper ought to be well informed on

Sub-Commissioner Craufurd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 7.)

(No. 72.)

My Lord,

Mombasa, July 10, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to transmit herewith a copy of a Report from Mohammed-bin-Agil, who was sent by Mr. Jenner's orders from Bardera to Boran.

The Abyssinians appear to give a good deal of trouble in that part of the country through which Mohammed Agil travelled.

As the leader of the expedition stated that he got within one day and a-half by marching from Aflata, the King of the Boran Gallas, it may be surmised that he saw a good deal of the country, which certainly does not now seem to be as rich as past accounts from Mr. Simons and others would have led one to believe.

It further appears that the Gallas are anxious that this Government should come to their assistance into Boran, and may try to force the Sub-Commissioner's hands; but I believe I am right in my instructions to Mr. Farrant to state that at present your Lordship has no intention of extending the frontiers of this Administration or increasing its liabilities in any way, and, therefore, he should not take any steps nor make any statements that would lead the Boran Gallas or others to believe that the Protectorate Government contemplated any movement beyond the limits of its present effective control.

I have received a rifle and ten cartridges, apparently of Russian manufacture: the fire-arm is one of the three captured by Mohammed Agil in his reported conflict with the Abyssinians; these I send to the Foreign Office in order that the place of their manufacture may be traced, and your Lordship may verify this proof of Russian activity in East Africa.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

CLIFFORD H. CRAUFURD.

Inclosure in No. 46*.

Report by Mohammed-bin-Agil (Ejffendi).

I HAD an order from Mr. Jenner when we were in Bardera country to proceed to the country of the Borans. I had with me 43 armed soldiers (police), 5 boxes of cartridges, and 12 bags of rice, 14 camels, 4 bundles of Americani cloth (trade goods). We also had two East African Protectorate flags, one of which we were to hoist at Aflata, in the town of Huggu, the chief town of the Sultan.

We left Bardera and marched to Alwaak, which is the beginning of the country of the Borans; we marched for three hours, and camped at Kuta Serera; from there we arrived at a place called Kuru (another three hours' march), where we found some wells. From Kuru we marched four and a-half hours, and camped at a place called Sidma, where we found some people called the Ribbas. They welcomed us in a friendly way, and with respect: they offered us four goats as presents, and I gave them a few things worth about 4 dollars. We bought ivory there for the Government at the price of 70 pieces of Americani, value 70 dollars. Then we left the Ribbas, and, having no guide who knew the country, lost our way, and we went along the vast forests for three days' leaving Bardera on the right and Alwaak on the left.

We had scarcely any water for these three days, and we had to retrace our steps to the place we had started from; from there we found our right way by guess-work, and looking always towards the east.

We marched for forty-one hours, and arrived eventually at Elwaak.

We found no people in that part of the country—all had run away, having been frightened by a Chief called Sheikh Abdi, who told them that the Europeans were coming and would take away all they possessed, camels, cattle, &c., and, as they had heard of our approach, they fled. But we found them a little further in the woods, and they received us gladly and with respect, which we had not expected; so I presented them with turbans for their Chiefs (for it is a great honour to them to wear a turban), and I also gave them some beads, cloth, and tobacco, worth about 10 dollars. After saluting each other peaceably, they sent word to the other Boran people, who were far away (the Sakuyu Boran, their Chief called Alamu Juru); we stayed a few days there. All the Boran people in the neighbourhood heard of our arrival, and came in numbers to greet us, and brought an ox, a

camel, and three goats for our food, as they heard we belonged to the English Government. In return I presented them with goods worth about 9 dollars.

After staying there a few days, we marched for ten hours and arrived at a place called Ghugha Haredi, at which was a tank of water dug like a pool; there are people there, who welcomed us and gave us one camel, and we bought two camels from them for 17 pieces of cloth, value 17 dollars, from one Nozee Hasan Adu, of the tribe of Ongirgam. We left there, and after three hours' marching we got to a mountain at the bottom of which was a pool of water. This place is called Wardar, and a number of people live there—Borans, Gallas, Ungiryaus, Derris, Garberis and Galbras. They welcomed us well, and brought us two oxen, two camels as a present; and I gave them in return some tobacco, beads, and cloth. Their Chiefs came to me and asked me: "What have you come to do in this country?" I answered them, "I came here by the orders of the English Government, and I am sending a British East Africa Protectorate flag to Aflata, to certify that Somalis and Borans are all brothers and friends, and they are subjects under British protection;" and I asked them whether there were any Amaharas (Abyssinians) in the country. They answered, "Yes, as it is a rainy season now, there are about 400 about the country." When we left here we marched for about three hours and arrived at a place called Tahab, where there are many wells of water, which never get dry even in hot weather.

Many Boran people live here, and they told me that the Amaharas (Abyssinians) had left this country as they had heard there was war in their own country.

The next day we left here and marched for three hours and arrived at a place called Dadesha, where we found a large pit full of water, which dries up in the dry season. After three hours' more marching we got to Kubdishau; there are people living there, and a large pit of water. We marched another two hours and a-half and got to a place called Kubi Halu, where there was another pit of water, but no people. After five hours' further marching we arrived at a high mountain called Dandu, where there are many wells, which never dry up at any season. Four hours' march from here we came to a place called Hallu Bulta Ferengi—Ferengi means an European. This place is so called because, some years ago, there passed an English doctor, who made his camp or boma there while he was returning from Wibidawa by the riverside of Jubaland on his way to Mombasa.

Leaving this place, we walked for four hours and reached a place called Ghufa, where we found some people called Gallitix Boran; they welcomed us respectfully, and we did the same to them. Three hours from here we got to a place called Ghufa Guddu, where there was a pit of water and some mountains of fair height here and there at short distances from each other. We proceeded for three hours and came to Tesua, where we found people called the Gabbra Boran; there are high mountains, and during the rains water falls in strong currents, and goes into the River Wibidawa. Four hours' walk from here we reached a place called Hargamsa, and found water, which falls from the mountains and goes into the country of Afmadu. In another three hours' march we reached a place called Serra. This country is an open plain with short grass and no forests. Leaving Serra we reached Gaddaba; some people live here, and there is a well cut in the rock, where there is plenty of water in the rainy season only. After three hours' walking from here we arrived at Daddaba Suddu; it has a rock well too. There are plenty of elephants here; we saw numbers of them at a little distance from us. We left this place the next day, and after six hours' march arrived at Wei, where there are many wells made by the Gallita tribe (Borans), who live there. Seven and a-half hours' marching from Wei brought us to Goff, which means "bad." There are many wells here also, and a large plain country with very small short grasses and no trees; the soil here is white, like a kind of lime.

The Amahara came here last year—about 500 of them—and camped for two months and returned to their homes. From here we walked eight hours, and got to a place called Igidar, where there are many wells of water and an open country with little grass, no trees, and whitish soil. The inhabitants are called Kariya Boran and Tallitu Boran. These are the people of Aflata. They came to greet us with their Chiefs Abba Ganda and Abba Adu. They gave us one horse and two oxen; I gave them some cloth, beads, and tobacco worth about 21 dollars.

I asked these Chiefs whether there are any Amaharas; they told me that about 200 of them had come into the country in the rainy season, and had plundered a quantity of property, camels, goats, horses, cattle, ivory, &c. I asked them again, "Do they kill men?" They said, "No, they don't kill men, but they tie them to trees, and flog them with a kiboko; they do the same to women and children, and desolate the country, and all the people run away for safety."

We proceeded further for about eight hours, and reached Kuuna, where there are high mountains and water at the bottom. I built a stockade here, and made a flagstaff. I told

the Chiefs and their people that they were to show the flag to whoever came to their country—Abyssinians, French, Italians, or any other Chiefs—and tell them they were subjects of the English Government. They answered that they had told the Amaharas that, and told them that they had letters to certify it. But the Amaharas did not listen to them, and disclaimed all knowledge of the English. The one who said these words was their big Chief Wildei. So, after this, I gave them the East Africa Protectorate flag to take to Aflata in order to precede me, Aflata being one and a-half day's march from here. They said they were afraid the Amaharas might be in the country and would attack them, but I told them to take their way by the forests till they got to Aflata, so they went. We then marched for about five hours to Gurile, where there are many wells. Here we saw a camp of Amaharas, who had made a stockade. We immediately halted. I wanted to send one of the Boranis to tell them that we were people belonging to the English Government, and only there to hunt elephants, and to wish them peace, and salute them with peace, when I heard a gun fired at us by the Amahara, and I saw that an askari was shot in the leg, so I thought, "Well, here is death approaching," and ordered my askaris to fire, as the enemy meant to fight us. We fired two volleys, and saw them all leaving their boma and running away. We entered the boma, and saw eight men lying—three quite dead and five badly wounded. We captured three rifles, six cartridge belts, 200 cartridges, one horse, one mule, and three camels, which I have handed over to the authorities at Kismayu, and numbers of cattle, which latter we returned to the Borans, from whom they had been plundered.

The Borans computed the number of men in the boma to be about fifty, and on seeing them run away, pursued them (without my consent). They killed four Abyssinians, and lost five of their own men. Two Borans were killed by the Abyssinians' first fire, so their total loss was seven killed.

We remained at this place three days. Three men were sent by Geddo, the Chief of Aflata, bringing his salaams and inviting us to stay with him. I told them I could not go to their town to stay as I was only sent by my Government to bring them a flag of peace; but that I could see by their manner that they accepted the flag I brought them, and they told me to relate to the English Government all that had taken place, and to ask the Government to come and help them against the Abyssinians.

I promised them to do this, and they asked me, "When do you think the English will come to us, as we are in great fear of the Amahara? Last year they took a great number of our properties, and if they come again they will do the same." I told them that I would inform Mr. Jenner, and Sir Arthur Hardinge, and Mr. Farrant, "and they will be sure to send you help, as you have placed yourselves under British protection." They said, "Will they really and truly send help to us?" and I replied I did not know; and they said, "If the Government delays, we ourselves shall come down that they may know that we really need their assistance; but we are afraid of the Ogadens, as they are not a trustworthy people, and we do not get on with them at all." But I said that the Ogadens were now at peace with the English, and they need have no fear.

They tried very hard to persuade me to remain with them, but I told them that I was obliged to return to Kismayu.

I did not return by the same road that I had previously taken to arrive there, but took another road by the north-east towards Jubaland direction. We marched five hours from Gurile to Itala, which is open country with some mountains, and three hours and a-half from here we found Kabe; the soil here is red. From here after two hours we reached Daddisha and found a pit of water, and in six hours we got to Tessu, where there is more water. These water pits hold water for nearly three months when the rains come.

Leaving this place we went to Jimagha, six hours' march, and seven hours after Dambimuyala, four hours from which brought us to Male, where there is water. Another seven hours brought us to a large standing rock, where there are many wells called Dabell; five and a-half hours from here we came to a very high mountain called Karandilli; in another seven hours we reached Weima Tessa, and four hours more brought us to Bunu.

There we had to march twelve hours and reached Ellas, and from there ten hours, Ghotkhor, where there was a pit of water, and then for eighteen hours day and night we got no water until we reached Wagalla Waijer, and left there marching seven hours to Elsiddi. From here we marched for sixteen hours with no water, reaching Lokolla, where the well was dry, thence to Dift, and thence seven hours' marching brought us to Welmaret, where the well was also dry.

The sufferings of the askaris from thirst were frightful. We had to march during

the night, and in eleven hours reached Musikiti, four hours from which we came to Yerra, which had a pit full of water. Another four hours brought us to Juma, and six hours further is Yuba in the Ogaden country. In four hours' march we got to a well called Gulja, which is in open country, and there is a narrow river which goes to Afmadu during the rains, and comes from Boran Bambi Nwyare. From this place we walked three hours and reached Runya. Here we met some police who were coming from Kismayu bringing us provisions. We left this place and marched for twelve hours and reached Afmadu. From Afmadu we marched for three days and reached Gobwen.

I had brought back with me two horses, one mule, three rifles, about 200 cartridges, one tusk of ivory which weighs 36 lbs., seven camels, which, with the five that conveyed our provisions from Kismayu, made twelve in all.

This is the account of our expedition from Bardera to Boran country, and from Boran to Kismayu.

(Unsigned.—C. H. C.)

31 *Gagda* 25, 1316.

such a subject, and I should think the officers named either have left or are leaving the Congo.

The number coincides with that mentioned by Major Chaltin to Major Pulteney at Léopoldville as being the reinforcement for which he was waiting.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ARTHUR S. RAIKES.

No. 46.

Foreign Office to Consul-General Sadler.

(No. 73.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 4, 1899.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 50 of the 29th June, on the subject of permission being given to foreign sportsmen to cross the frontier of the Somali Coast Protectorate into Abyssinian territory on shooting expeditions.

In reply, I am to inform you that his Lordship approves your proposal to leave it to foreign gentlemen themselves to obtain the requisite permission from the Abyssinian authorities to shoot in Abyssinian territory, and to inform them that they will only be allowed to cross the frontier subject to such permission being previously obtained.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 47.

Sir R. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 7.)

(No. 140. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Cairo, July 29, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a despatch relative to a religious movement among the tribes in the Somali Protectorate, which I have received from Mr. Harrington.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

Inclosure in No. 47.

Mr. Harrington to Viscount Cromer.

(No. 59. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Zeyla, July 17, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your Lordship's information, that I have communicated to King Menelek the religious movement on the borders of the Somali Coast Protectorate, which the Mulla, Haji Mahomed Ahmed is conducting.

This movement is referred to in Consul-General Sadler's despatch to Lord Salisbury, No. 26, Confidential, dated the 14th April, 1899, and following despatches, copies of which were sent to your Lordship.

The King informed me that he would take steps to stifle this movement, should the Mulla move into Abyssinian territory.

On arrival at Harrar I found that Dejasmach Birratu, nephew of Ras Makunan, had been detailed to watch the Mullah's movements, and capture him if possible.

I was unable to ascertain what the Dejasmach's movements were to be, so I directed Her Majesty's Consular Agent at Harrar to report his movements direct to the Consul-General, Somali Protectorate.

I suggested to the Dejasmach that he should visit the Consul-General, were the latter at Hargeisa or in the neighbourhood of the frontier.

A copy of this despatch has been sent to the Consul-General, Berbera.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. L. HARRINGTON.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 12.)

(No. 56. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Hargaisa, July 22, 1899.

LIEUTENANT HAROLD informs me that about the 11th instant ten men of the Habr Yunis and Habr Gerhajis tribes, armed with rifles and bandoliers full of cartridges, were met in the vicinity of Dongarita, and proceeding towards Bulhar by some men taking live-stock to Zeyla. There were two Aysa with these armed men acting as guides.

There can be no doubt but that these arms came from Jibuti, and that they are destined for the Mullah Muhammad Abdullah, or for Sultan Nur.

The unrestricted sale of fire-arms at Jibuti has always been a danger to the Protectorate; more especially is this the case now when this Mullah is making every endeavour to supply his followers with rifles. As the matter stands, it is possible for arms from Jibuti to be landed on any part of the coast, and be smuggled into the interior either without our knowledge, or, if we do get intimation, before we are able to act on it. Arms would naturally not come to our ports, where we are on the look-out.

The friendly Habr Awal tribes would doubtless help us to prevent arms reaching the Mullah as far as they are able, but it is doubtful if isolated sections armed only with spears would care to question the passage of such a party as that now reported. It might also be possible for Lieutenant Harold to arrange with the Indian trader, who acts as our agent in Jibuti, to keep a look-out and let him know when arms are dispatched from Jibuti to our coast; this individual's position is, however, already one of considerable difficulty, and it is doubtful whether he would be found willing to undertake this work, and if he did, whether it would be of much avail. The man in Jibuti who is doubtless assisting the Mullah in obtaining arms is one Muhammad Arab, a Somali who was deported some years ago for seditious preaching in Berbera. This person is said to stand high in the favour of the French authorities, and he has a brother and a son who are with the Mullah, and who are reported to be amongst his principal advisers.

Situated as we are, it is difficult to devise any measure that will effectually check the landing of arms from Jibuti on our coast short of a representation in the matter to the French Government, which, I venture to think, may possibly not be considered expedient.

Lieutenant Harold hopes to effect the arrest of the two Aysa who acted as guides; inquiries are being made from here, and I am offering rewards for information, which will lead to the seizure of arms brought into the Protectorate; it is too late though, I fear, to prevent the rifles lately seen from reaching their destination.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

P.S.—Copies of this despatch, and of the preceding despatch (No. 55), have been sent to Viscount Cromer. J. H. S.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 12.)

(No. 57. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Hargaisa, July 22, 1899.

I HAVE received a demi-official communication, dated the 4th instant, from M. Gerolimato, our Consular Agent in Harrar, telling me that the King has given orders to Dejasmatch Boratoo, who is now acting as Governor of Harrar, to do nothing in the Ogaden without his (M. Gerolimato's) advice. M. Gerolimato accordingly asks me what to do in connection with an expedition the Abyssinians are preparing to send to the Ogaden: whether to let them go, or indirectly endeavour to stop them. From what is written it would seem that the Dejasmatch is not over anxious to proceed with the expedition.

I can offer no opinion as to the expediency of sending a force into the Ogaden from an Abyssinian point of view; all I know about the force is that it is to be employed against a somewhat distant tribe, and that it is to catch the Mullah Muhammad Abdullah if it can.

But so far as the interests of this Protectorate are concerned, and the position with regard to the Mullah affected thereby, I am of opinion that an Abyssinian move to the Ogaden at the present time would not help us, and might be productive of an opposite effect. Were we moving ourselves directly against the Mullah, and had the Ogaden tribes declared against us, a simultaneous move on the part of the Abyssinians would certainly

assist our operations. Neither of these conditions, however, exist at present. We are not moving actively against the Mullah, and the Ogaden tribes, so far as I am aware, are quite friendly to us. Their caravans are coming in from the interior to our ports, and since writing my despatch No. 55 of last week, I have received through one of our Akils returning from the Ogaden, friendly messages from the Rer Ali and Rer Haroun, assuring me that they are dependent on our ports for their supplies, and that they will not mix themselves up with the disturbances in the Dolbahanta. This Akil further told me that horsemen from the Mullah were expected to arrive amongst the Rer Haroun, but had not done so yet, thus contradicting the reports noted in the concluding portion of my despatch above referred to.

Were an Abyssinian expedition to appear in the Ogaden it would be the signal for the rising of all the Ogaden tribes, and probably throw them at once into the hands of the Mullah, the very contingency we wish to avoid. I do not think that this expedition is likely to catch the Mullah, and if it met with a reverse, which is quite on the cards, the prestige and influence of the Mullah would be greatly enhanced, whether he had anything to do with it or not.

For these reasons I should prefer the despatch of this expedition postponed for the present.

I am informing M. Gerolimato briefly of my views, which I trust will meet with your Lordship's approval.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

P.S.—A copy of this despatch has been sent to Lord Cromer.

J. H. S.

No. 50.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 12.)

(No. 58.)

My Lord,

Hargaisa, July 22, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to inclose copy of a Resolution of the Bombay Government in the Political Department, dated the 6th instant, embodying the correspondence regarding the transfer of the securities standing to the credit of the Rer Hared Fund in the Aden Treasury to the name of the Consul-General of the Somali Coast Protectorate.

Allusion was made to this fund in the concluding portion of my despatch No. 6 of the 24th October last.

As the 150 rupees to be allotted to Aden yearly will be spent in providing passages to indigent and sick Somalis to return to their homes, the proceeds of this fund will continue to be expended solely in the interests of the Protectorate as herebefore.

I trust the arrangement will meet with your Lordship's approval.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

Inclosure in No. 50.

Consul-General Sadler to the Political Resident, Aden.

October 25, 1898.

I HAVE the honour to request that the Accountant-General, Bombay, may be moved to transfer to the name of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General, Somali Coast, the securities for 24,500 rupees belonging to the Rer Hared Fund, which now stand in the joint names of the Political Resident, Aden, and the Political Agent and Consul, Somali Coast.

Memorandum from the Political Resident, Aden.

Forwarded, with compliments, to the Secretary, Political Department, Bombay.
Recommended.

October 26, 1898.

Letter to the Political Resident, Aden.

November 24, 1898.

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your Memorandum, dated the 26th ultimo, forwarding, for compliance with the request therein made, a copy of a letter, dated the 25th idem, from Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General for the Somali Coast, who requests that the securities for 24,500 rupees belonging to the Rer Hared Fund which now stand in the joint names of the Political Resident, Aden, and the Political Agent and Consul, Somali Coast, may be transferred to the name of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General for the Somali Coast.

2. In reply, I am to invite your attention to Government Resolution, dated the 13th January, 1896, from which it will be seen that one object of the fund in question is to assist "indigent and sick Somalis desirous of returning from Aden to their own country," and as the expenditure on this account must apparently be incurred at Aden, I am to inquire how you propose to secure this object if the fund is finally transferred to an officer of the Foreign Office.

Letter from the Political Resident, Aden.

December 15, 1898.

In reference to your letter of the 24th November last, I have the honour to forward copy of letter, dated the 7th instant, from Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General, Somali Coast Protectorate, and to state that in my opinion it meets the end in view.

Consul-General Sadler to the Political Resident, Aden.

December 7, 1898.

With reference to your endorsement, dated the 2nd instant, I have the honour to say that I would of course be prepared to take any steps that may be necessary for carrying out the objects with which the Rer Hared Fund was established.

2. The interest accruing from the funds invested amounts, I understand, to rupees 855:5:8 annually. Experience has shown that the amount paid for the conveyance of indigent and sick Somalis from Aden to the coast comes to but little in the year, whilst by far the larger portion of the income is spent in affording assistance to pauper patients at the coast dispensaries.

3. Before my departure from Aden I left 150 rupees with the First Assistant Resident for the object noted by the Bombay Government. I would propose to renew this annually, if required, and also, if required, to increase the amount by another 100 rupees, which, from my experience of the working of the fund, should more than cover all possible requirements.

I presume, it will be understood, that the expenses of persons deported to the coast for misconduct in Aden will not be charged to this allotment, as such has never been the practice.

Memorandum to the Financial Department.

Transferred to the Financial Department for disposal, with reference to Government Resolution in that Department, dated the 6th September, 1897.

2. Government in this Department are of opinion that the fund should be transferred to the Consul-General, Somali Coast, on condition that he provides the Aden Residency with funds to the extent of 150 rupees per annum for the conveyance of sick and indigent Somalis from Aden to the Somali Coast.

January 10, 1899.

Memorandum from the Financial Department.

Retransferred to the Political Department.

2. It will be seen from the preamble of Government Resolution, Political Department, dated the 13th January, 1896, that the interest on the securities pertaining to the Rer Hared Dispensary Fund is credited to an excluded local fund from which assistance is given to pauper patients of the Berbera and Bulhar dispensaries, and to indigent and sick Somalis desirous of returning from Aden to their own country. The securities stand in the names of the Political Resident, Aden, and the Political Agent and Consul, Somali Coast. As the administration of the Somali Coast is now

taken over by the Home Government, there is no objection in this Department to the fund being made over to the proper authorities of the Coast. It is for the Political Department to settle with the Coast authorities the conditions on which the fund should be made over to them, and that Department can also issue the requisite orders asking the Accountant-General to transfer the securities of the fund to the Coast authorities. The Political Department will also have to consider—if necessary, in consultation with the Accountant-General—whether in view of the facts that the money from which the fund was constituted belonged to Imperial revenues, and that the sanction of the Government of India was obtained by that Department before investing it in Government securities and crediting the interest to an excluded local fund, the proceedings now proposed to be taken should be reported to the Supreme Government.

March 20, 1899.

Letter to the Government of India.

April 14, 1899.

With reference to Captain Daly's letter, dated the 28th December, 1895, which conveyed sanction to the interest on the Government securities for rupees 27,319:1:4 obtained by the sale of cattle captured in the punitive expedition against the Rer Hared tribe on the Somali Coast in 1895 being credited to an excluded local fund, from which assistance should be given to pauper patients at the Berbera and Bulhar dispensaries and to indigent and sick Somalis desirous of returning from Aden to their own country, I am directed to report, for the information of the Government of India, that Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General for the Somali Coast Protectorate has requested that the securities belonging to the fund, which are of the value of the 24,500 rupees and not 27,319 rupees, and which now stand in the joint names of the Political Resident, Aden, and the Political Agent and Consul, Somali Coast Protectorate, may be transferred to the name of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General for the Somali Coast Protectorate, and has undertaken to place 150 rupees annually at the disposal of the Political Resident, Aden, to enable him to provide passages for indigent and sick Somalis desirous of returning from Aden to the Coast, and also a further sum of 100 rupees annually should it be found that 150 rupees is not sufficient for the purpose.

2. Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General for the Somali Coast Protectorate has intimated his willingness to take any steps that may be necessary to carry out the objects for which the Rer Hared Fund was established, and as the interest accruing from the securities is understood to amount to rupees 855:5:8 per annum, and experience has shown that the amount paid for the conveyance of indigent and sick Somalis from Aden to the Coast comes to but little in the year, while by far the greater portion of the income is spent in affording assistance to pauper patients at the Somali Coast dispensaries, I am directed to request that the Government of India may be moved to sanction the transfer of the securities to the name of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General for the Somali Coast Protectorate on condition of his placing 150 rupees per annum at the disposal of the Political Resident, Aden, to enable him to provide passages for indigent and sick Somalis. I am to add that the expenses of persons deported to the Somali Coast for misconduct at Aden are not charged to this allotment.

Letter from the Government of India.

May 20, 1899.

In reply to your letter, dated the 14th April, 1899, I am directed to sanction the transfer of the Government securities for 24,500 rupees belonging to the Rer Hared Excluded Local Fund to the name of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General for the Somali Coast Protectorate on condition of his placing the sum of 150 rupees annually at the disposal of the Political Resident at Aden to enable the latter to provide passages for indigent and sick Somalis.

Resolution.—A copy of the above letter from the Government of India should be forwarded to the Political Resident, Aden, with reference to the correspondence ending with his letter dated the 15th December, 1898.

2. The Accountant-General should be instructed to transfer the Government securities belonging to the Rer Hared Fund to the name of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General, Somali Coast Protectorate, on the condition specified.

(Signed)

S. W. EDGERLEY,

Secretary to Government.

Aden Residency, July 14, 1899.

Copy forwarded, with compliments, to Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General,
Somali Coast Protectorate, Berbera, for information.

(Signed)

H. F. JACOB,
Acting Political Resident.

No. 51.

Sir R. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 12.)

(No. 144.)

My Lord,

Cairo, August 4, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to submit, for your Lordship's consideration, a Memorandum which I have drawn up, with reference to the negotiations regarding the Abyssinian frontier.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

RENNELL RODD.

Inclosure in No. 51.

Memorandum by Sir R. Rodd respecting Frontier Negotiations with Abyssinia.

(Secret.)

IN his negotiations with the Emperor Menelek for the definition of a frontier between Ethiopia and the Anglo-Egyptian Soudan, Mr. Harrington has succeeded in obtaining a line considerably more to the advantage of the latter than his original instructions would have warranted his accepting conditionally. The rapid march of events in the Soudan since his arrival in Ethiopia have revealed the necessity for certain modifications in those instructions, and, generally speaking, it would appear that there will now be no difficulty in securing all the essential points.

The dotted blue line of the proposed boundary marked on the map accompanying Mr. Harrington's despatch No. 41 of the 26th May, 1899, starts to the north from Todluk, on the line laid down as the boundary of Italian territory on the south-west, which line runs east from Tomat at the junction of the Setit and the Atbara till it reaches Todluk, and thence is traced along the course of the Mareb till it reaches the territory where the boundary between Erythræa and Abyssinia still awaits definition.*

In examining this point of departure and the direction south-west, in which the line is traced, a question at once arises for consideration. Between the 10th and 15th parallels, the proposed Anglo-Egyptian frontier with Abyssinia runs considerably east of the boundary-line laid down in the Anglo-Italian Protocol of the 15th April, 1891.

The Secret Protocol, signed by M. di Rudini and Lord Dufferin at the same time, provides for the eventual reoccupation by the Egyptian Government of any territory from which Italy might withdraw, between the actual frontier of Ethiopia and the line of demarcation indicated in Article I of the Protocol. Telegrams which passed between the Marquess of Salisbury and the Marquess of Dufferin speak of the territory to be contingently reoccupied as Keren and the Abyssinian plateau.

The Secret Protocol is, however, not known to the public in Italy, and it is conceivable that difficulties might occur if we make public an arrangement with Menelek, in which territories acknowledged in the Protocol above referred to as in the Italian sphere are recognized by him as in the Anglo-Egyptian Soudan, without some previous reference to the Italian Government. It may also be worth while pointing out that the Secret Protocol reserves the right of reoccupation to the Egyptian Government, whereas it will be the Anglo-Egyptian Government of the Soudan which will occupy the territories in question.

The authorities of Erythræa have recently endeavoured to obtain special advantages in the Soudan by their own interpretation of the text of former Agreements, and there may be some danger of giving a plausible pretext for similar manœuvres unless a definite understanding with them is laid down beforehand.†

* See Lord Cromer's despatch No. 12 of January 1st, 1898.

† Claim of free Customs entry at Kassala on strength of Article 4 of Protocol of April 15, 1891

In a Confidential Memorandum respecting various frontier incidents, forwarded by the Acting Governor of Erythræa to Rome, which was shown to me privately by the Italian Agent and Consul-General in Cairo, the following passage occurs :—

“(Translation.)

“Agents of the Anglo-Egyptian Government have repeatedly and publicly asserted the rights of Egypt over the Cunana country, and especially to the lower basin of the Setit, a district which, whether we look to the Treaty of 1891 or to that concluded by us with the Negus, is dependent on Italy.”

But on the map on which Mr. Harrington's negotiations are based, the whole of the Setit River from Tomat, situated at its junction with the Atbara, appears to be well to the south of the line drawn direct from Tomat to Todluk, and described as the southern limit of Italian territory.

The proposed boundary line is traced on the rough principles of tribal occupation, as shown in the map, “Nile Valley: Berber to Victoria Nyanza,” compiled by the Intelligence Division of the War Office, and dated 1898.

It includes first on the Anglo-Egyptian side the territory of the Hamran tribe.

Lord Cromer,
No. 12, January 18,
1898.

Mr. Harrington,
No. 41, Confidential, May 26,
1899.

The Hamran tribe are now actually under the Soudan Government, which does not, however, appear to exercise any jurisdiction on the Setit River.

In January last the Commandant at Gedaref and Gallabat reported that the Hamran Arabs claim that their country extends between Gera and the Atbara; that is to say, it would appear to lie south of the Setit, not north, as marked on the map used in the negotiations. Should this prove to be the case, and should there be no special object in retaining the strip of country north of the Setit, it would appear to have advantages that the delimitation line should begin at Tomat instead of Todluk, and that the line should follow the Setit River as far as Therat or Ombrega. These advantages appear to be three in number :—

(a.) The dispensing with the awkward acute-angled wedge of country running up to Todluk between Italian and Abyssinian territory;

(b.) The securing a good and easily recognised frontier along the Setit River;

(c.) The having in hand a piece of territory which could be conceded to Menelek in return for some concession elsewhere of greater importance to us.

To the south, when the district marked Kedawi on the map is reached, the question of boundaries is left open, according as this district is found to preponderate to the east or west of the dotted blue line marked on the map.

With regard to this proposition, it must be observed that the maps of these unsurveyed districts are necessarily far from accurate, and it would be extremely difficult to identify in practice the situation represented by the dotted blue line. It has been shown that the Abyssinians are ready to accept longitudes and latitudes in territorial definition, and it would perhaps be more practical, when it comes to drafting an Agreement, to take as nearly as possible the longitude of the line indicated on the map and fix this as the basis of compromise.

But there appears to be some doubt as to the correctness of the map at this point. Reference to Kassala as to the limits of the Kedawi tribe has elicited the reply that they are located in quite another region, namely, the Khor Anseba, east of the Baraka about 17° north and 40° east.

Other maps show a Metemmeh Chedawi, and the “Kedawi” marked on the boundary map may prove to be a district. At any rate, further information on this point is required.

The line then follows the eastern boundaries of the Gallabat Province.

It appears from Mr. Harrington's despatches that Menelek is extremely anxious to obtain possession of the town of Metemmeh, and has made a strong appeal on sentimental grounds to be allowed to keep his flag there. Whatever his real motives may be, Mr. Harrington is convinced that the King attaches great importance to his request being granted, and he hopes some means may be found of meeting his wishes, as he considers that such a proof of our readiness to treat him liberally will have an influence on the general situation and on our position in Abyssinia.

The fort, which it seems essential we should retain, is, it appears, some distance from the old town which, at the end of last year, was practically abandoned, the population having left with Ahmed Fedil.

Colonel Maxwell
to Sir R. Rodd,
No. 622, Tele-
graphic, August 2,
1899.

The country round Metemneh is said to be very fertile, and there is forest, furnishing good timber, reaching all the way to Doka, half way to Gedaref, in which district there is no timber. The idea of substituting Doka for Metemneh as an eventual market does not seem sound, as the water supply at Doka on the higher elevation is bad. Menelek has accepted the principle of giving us a "sanitary station" in the mountains above Nasser, which would be in the nature of a gratuitous lease. It would perhaps be possible to do the same for him with the town of Metemneh, and, while preserving the administration of the district as a whole, to give him an enclave as a trading station under his own flag, and allow goods to come in free to his station from the Gondar road, these being only liable to duty on re-exportation to Doka and Gedaref.

Another possible form of compromise would be to give Menelek a station on the right bank of the Atbara, where the road from Gondar crosses the river. The present fort is said to be some 5 miles to the south of the river on the left bank.

The proposed boundary-line south of Metemneh then follows the eastern limits of the Debaineh and Dar-es-Somati countries, and, leaving Dar Gubba and Dar Gumuz on the Abyssinian side, reserves to the Soudan the Famaka and Fazogli districts, now actually under Anglo-Egyptian control. Not having yet had an opportunity of discussing the proposed frontier with the Sirdar, I have no observations to offer on this part of the line. There appears, however, to be no doubt that Abu Shokh has paid tribute to Menelek and has acknowledged his suzerainty, and, however anxious he may be to obtain a release from his engagements, it would be difficult to induce the Negus to relax his hold upon him.

The Beni Shangul country, which remains on the Abyssinian side of the line, has been throughout the main source of anxiety to Menelek. A large expedition was sent there under Ras Makunan some time back, the country was made tributary to Abyssinia, apparently after an understanding had been arrived at with the Khalifa on the subject, and the readiness shown to recognize his rights of occupation has probably greatly facilitated the rest of the delimitation. He has, moreover, already entered into negotiations with English capitalists for the exploitation of gold mines which are known to exist in this region.

Two points suggest themselves in connection with this part of the frontier:—

1. The desirability, if the Sirdar should wish for it, of securing a sanitary station for the Famaka and Fazogli garrisons in the Abyssinian mountains on similar terms to that which Menelek has expressed his readiness to leave east of Nasser. Mr. Harrington does not think there will be any difficulty in securing this.

2. The necessity for securing a good trace for the proposed Cape to Cairo Railway over territory belonging to the Soudan Government. At present but little is known of the region between Beni Shangul and the White Nile, and it may be necessary to reserve dry country on the western slopes of the Shankalla Hills if no suitable ground is to be found west of the proposed boundary-line. Captain Welby, who is expected in Cairo shortly, having come in a more or less direct line from Lake Rudolph to Khartoum, may have information which will help to clear up this question.

It appears probable that the Nuer tribe, who are to be included, on the principle of tribal division, in the Soudan, extend north of the Sobat somewhat further to the east than the line actually marked on the map. A recent report shows that the last Nuer village eastward was found two days' journey above Nasser. The line may, therefore, have to be deflected slightly to the east on the right bank of the Baro-Sobat.

South of the Sobat the problem arises at what point the delimitation ceases to be with the Anglo-Egyptian Soudan.

This suggests for consideration the form in which any agreement is to be made. It is not probable that Menelek, who is suspicious of all signed documents, will be willing to deal with any one but Her Majesty's Government. The expedients which have hitherto been adopted to surmount the difficulty of expressing Egyptian participation in Soudan agreements will probably, therefore, not avail in the present case.

It would perhaps solve many difficulties if, whether the Arrangement be recorded in a Treaty or in an exchange of notes, the precedent of the arrangement made respecting the limits of the British Somali Protectorate were followed here, but in the converse sense.* In that case expression was given to the recognition by Menelek alone of the line agreed upon, and no recognition on our part of his territory was mentioned. In the present case, an unilateral recognition in the converse sense, laying down that Her Majesty's Government recognize as the western and southern frontiers of Ethiopia the line traced in accordance with the stipulations agreed to would obviate the necessity for

* Treaty Series No. 2, 1898, pp. 7 and 8.

any definition as to the proprietorship of the territory on our side of the boundary, while our recognition of Menelek's frontiers would be accepted by him as covering Egypt also.

Should the line which Mr. Harrington has undertaken to submit to the Marquess of Salisbury as the southern limit of Abyssinian extension be accepted in its general principles, the question once more arises how far it may be advisable to ascertain officially the present attitude of Italy towards the regions where, by former arrangements, we were "limitrophe" with her. At the same time, in the proposed arrangement we shall not be in any single point encroaching on what we had agreed to respect as the Italian sphere. There should, therefore, be no prospect of difficulties here.

It would perhaps be prudent to make some reserves with Menelek with a view to keeping open a trade route between the regions round Lake Rudolph and the British Protectorate on the Somali Coast.

(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

Cairo, August 4, 1899.

Annex.

Separate Protocol of April 15, 1891, with Italy.

SE référant au Protocole qu'ils viennent de signer aujourd'hui même, les Soussignés, à ce dûment autorisés, déclarent ce qui suit :—

Il est entendu que, si jamais le Gouvernement Italien voulait réduire sa sphère d'influence dans une partie quelconque du territoire entre la frontière actuelle de l'Éthiopie et la ligne de démarcation indiquée à l'Article 1^{er} du dit Protocole, le Gouvernement Italien n'aurait pas d'objection à ce que le territoire, ainsi abandonné par lui, soit stablement occupé par le Gouvernement Égyptien.

Fait à Rome, en double exemplaire, ce 15 Avril, 1891.

(Signé) RUDINI.
DUFFERIN AND AVA.

No. 52.

Sir R. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 12.)

(No. 145.)

My Lord,

Cairo, August 4, 1899.

WITH reference to Lord Cromer's despatch No. 102 of the 30th May last, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith four Ordinances relating to the administration of the Soudan, and dealing respectively with the house tax, the boat tax, public ferries, and the occupations of auctioneer and pedlar.

The same procedure as that indicated in Lord Cromer's despatch, to which reference is made above, has been observed as regards the issue and publication of these Ordinances.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

Inclosure in No. 52.

Extract from the "Journal Officiel" of August 2, 1899.

SOUDAN LAWS.

An Ordinance for regulating the House Tax.

IT is hereby enacted as follows :—

1. A tax, to be called "the house tax," shall be levied in such towns as the

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Governor General shall from time to time order, by notice published in the "Soudan Gazette."

2. House tax shall (subject to the exceptions hereinafter specified) be paid in respect of all dwelling-houses, hotels, stores, factories, and other buildings, and shall be at the rate per annum of one-twelfth of the annual rental value.

The annual rental value of any premises is the annual sum which an ordinary tenant would pay for the premises, with their appurtenances, free from any restrictions as to user; but, in assessing the tax, no account shall be taken of furniture, or of machinery, other than fixed machinery.

3. The tax shall be paid in advance by the owner of the premises assessed, by four equal instalments on the 1st day of January, the 1st day of April, the 1st day of July, and the 1st day of October in every year, the first payment to be made on the first of such days after the publication of the first assessment list hereinafter mentioned.

4. The following buildings shall be exempt from house tax:—

(a.) Buildings the property of the Government, or of any Government Department;

(b.) Mosques, churches, and all other buildings unproductive of revenue and used for religious or charitable purposes;

(c.) Premises in the occupation of the owner, of which the annual rental value does not exceed £ T. 500.

Provided that the residence of a person following a religious life shall not be deemed to be used exclusively for religious purposes.

5. Premises which have been unoccupied during three consecutive calendar months shall not again be liable to the payment of house tax until they are again occupied.

6. The assessment of premises in each town shall be made by an Assessment Commission, consisting of six persons, namely, three Government officials to be nominated by the Mudir, and three members to be chosen by the Mudir, from a list of twelve owners of assessable property within the town, to be elected by the owners of assessable property.

The property of a member of the Assessment Commission shall be assessed by the other members of the Commission.

7. As soon as may be after the completion of the assessment, an assessment list shall be published in the town.

8. An appeal shall lie from any assessment, at any time within three calendar months of the publication of an assessment list, to a Commission composed of the Mudir, the Inspector within whose district the town is situate, and two owners to be chosen by the Mudir from the list mentioned in section 6 other than members of the Assessment Commission.

Appeals on behalf of the Government shall be brought by the Mamur or other prescribed official.

9. The Appellate Commission shall have power to award reasonable costs to a successful, or against an unsuccessful, appellant.

10. In the month of December in every year the Assessment Commission shall prepare and publish a revised assessment list, and for this purpose the Commission shall give public notice of the times of its sitting.

In the preparation of the revised list, new buildings shall, and buildings not already assessed may, be included; but the assessment on a building already assessed shall not be altered unless it appear to the Assessment Commission that, owing to alterations in, or additions to, the premises, or for other reason, the rental value has increased, or the owner proves to the satisfaction of the Commission that the rental value has, for any reason, been diminished.

No existing assessment shall be appealed against unless it has been increased, or unless the owner has applied to the Commission for a reduction.

11. The owner of any premises in or to which any alteration or addition is made, shall give notice of such alteration or addition to the Mamur or other prescribed official, not later than the 30th day of November next ensuing, under penalty of a fine not exceeding one year's house tax on the premises.

12. If any part of the tax remain unpaid for one calendar month after the date at which it became payable, it may be recovered before a Magistrate of the first or second class, from the owner, as money due on a Judgment.

13. Where there are more than two owners of any premises, or the owner or any one of the owners is not resident in the town, or is unknown, or cannot be found, and in any of such cases any part of the tax is in arrear for more than one calendar month, the Mudir may give notice to the occupant of the premises to pay his rent to the Government until such time as no part of the tax is in arrear; and until the Mudir rescinds such notice,

the occupant shall be bound so to pay his rent, and his doing so shall be an answer to any action by the owner or owners for, or in respect of, the rent so paid.

Any rent so ordered to be paid to the Government may be recovered as a debt due, whenever it is more than one calendar month in arrear.

14. The Mudir shall issue Regulations for the election of representatives of owners, and for all other purposes necessary or proper for giving effect to this Ordinance.

15. This Ordinance may be cited as "The Taxation (House Tax) Ordinance, 1899."

(Signed)

KITCHENER OF KHARTOUM,
Governor-General.

An Ordinance for regulating the Boat Tax.

It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. There shall be payable in respect of every boat plying upon the Nile or any of its tributaries within the Soudan, a boat tax, at the rate per annum of £ T. 2 per ardeb of the boat's carrying capacity. The tax shall be payable in advance by two half-yearly instalments, on the 1st day of January, and the 1st day of July in every year.

2. There shall be exempted from the boat tax—

(1.) Boats belonging to the Government;

(2.) Licensed ferry boats; and

(3.) Boats whose owners are resident in Egypt, and which do not ply above the Wady-Halfa cataract.

3. The first instalment of tax in respect of boats plying before the 1st day of July next, shall be paid on or before that day; in respect of boats commencing to ply after the first day of July next, the first instalment shall be paid before commencing to ply, and shall be a proportionate amount only of the annual tax, corresponding to the then unexpired period of the current half-year.

4. Instalments of tax may be paid at any Mudirieh.

5. Upon the first payment of tax, a certificate shall be given in respect of the boat, stating its carrying capacity, and that the tax has been paid. The certificate shall be produced upon payment of all future instalments, and notice of payment shall be indorsed thereon.

6. If a certificate be lost, a new certificate shall be granted at the Mudirieh at which the last instalment of tax was paid, upon payment of £ T. 5.

7. The boat certificate shall be produced upon demand to every Magistrate or police officer. Non-production of the certificate shall be presumptive evidence that the tax has not been paid, and shall be reported forthwith to the Mudir.

8. Every Mudir shall have power to arrest a boat, the certificate of which is not produced or shows that any instalment of tax is more than a calendar month in arrear. The Mudir shall, unless good reason for non-payment be shown, inflict a penalty not exceeding three times the tax appearing to be in arrear.

The Mudir shall detain the boat in custody until the penalty be paid.

9. If it subsequently appear that all instalments of tax have been paid, but that the certificate has been lost, the penalty shall be repaid, less the price of a new certificate.

10. If the penalty be not paid within three calendar months of the date of arrest, the Mudir shall cause the boat to be sold by public auction, and, after deducting the costs of custody and of the sale and the amount of the penalty, shall pay the balance of the proceeds to the persons appearing to be entitled thereto.

For the purpose of ascertaining the persons entitled, the Mudir shall retain the balance of the proceeds for thirty days, within which time all claims thereon shall be made to him.

11. This Ordinance may be cited as "The Taxation (Boats) Ordinance, 1899."

(Signed)

KITCHENER OF KHARTOUM,
Governor-General.

An Ordinance for regulating Public Ferries.

It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. Every ferry declared by Government to be a public ferry shall be let by public auction from year to year by the Mudir or other prescribed authority.

The Government shall not be bound to accept the highest bid.

2. Half the rent of a public ferry shall be paid on the 1st day of January, and the remainder on the 1st day of July.

3. The lessee of a public ferry shall conform to all Regulations issued for such ferry, under penalty of forfeiture, together with any other penalty which may be specified in the Regulations.

4. The owner and every person in charge of a boat plying for hire upon a public ferry, otherwise than under the provisions of this Ordinance, may be fined a sum not exceeding £ T. 50 for each journey.

5. Offences under this Ordinance may be tried summarily or otherwise by any Magistrate of the first or second class. But no sentence of forfeiture shall be effective unless passed or confirmed by the Mudir.

6. This Ordinance may be cited as "The Public Ferries' Ordinance, 1899."

(Signed) KITCHENER OF KHARTOUM,
Governor-General.

An Ordinance for regulating and licensing the Occupations of Auctioneer and Pedlar.

It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. No person shall act as an auctioneer or trade as a pedlar except by virtue of a licence to be issued by a Mudir or other prescribed authority after inquiry as to the character of the applicant.

2. Every licence issued under this Ordinance shall expire on the 31st day of December in each year, but no penalty shall be incurred if the licence is renewed on or before the 14th day of January next.

3. (i.) The annual fee for an auctioneer's licence shall be £ T. 200 in the towns of Khartoum, Suakin, Berber, and Tewfikieh, and £ T. 100 elsewhere.

(ii.) The annual fee for a pedlar's licence shall be £ T. 75.

(iii.) For a licence taken out on or after the 1st day of July in any year, only half the fee shall be paid.

4. (i.) Every person acting as an auctioneer without a licence shall be liable to fine not exceeding £ T. 50 in respect of each occasion on which he so acts.

(ii.) Every person trading as a pedlar without a licence shall be liable to fine not exceeding £ T. 50 for every week or part of a week during which he so trades.

5. Every auctioneer and every pedlar shall conform to any Regulations issued for his occupation, under penalty of revocation of his licence, together with any other penalty which may be specified in the Regulations.

6. Offences under this Ordinance may be tried, summarily or otherwise, by any Magistrate of the first or second class. The Magistrate may, if he thinks fit, issue a warrant for the arrest of the offender. No revocation of a licence shall be effective unless passed or confirmed by the Mudir.

7. This Ordinance may be cited as "The Licence (Auctioneer's and Pedlar's) Ordinance, 1899."

(Signed) KITCHENER OF KHARTOUM,
Governor-General.

No. 53.

Sir G. Bonham to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 12.)

(No. 166.)

My Lord,

Rome, August 9, 1899.

AS allusion has been made in the newspapers to the presence in Italy of Signor Martini, the Civil Governor of Erythræa, I took an opportunity of asking M. Malvano whether the Customs Convention between Erythræa and the Soudan was considered satisfactory.

His Excellency replied that there was one point on which Sir R. Rodd would probably be asked to furnish explanations, viz., with respect to a reciprocity clause, which, he said, had been introduced at the last moment.

There are certain articles, he said, respecting which the Government of Erythræa had always made reservations, mentioning salt, tobacco, and alcoholic liquors, and the question arises whether, under the new Convention, these would remain intact.

On referring to Viscount Cromer's counter-proposals, which he was so good as to forward to me, I presume that the reciprocity clause alluded to consists of the first and second Articles with respect to which his Lordship mentions in the Memorandum annexed thereto that "it was possible that the Italian Government might wish to make some special reserves."

M. Malvano described the general state of Erythræa as being fairly satisfactory. He added, however, that the frontier question had not been decided, and that, in negotiations with Menelek, the exercise of great patience was necessary.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. BONHAM.

No. 54.

Sir G. Bonham to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 12.)

(No. 168.)

My Lord,

Rome, August 10, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to transmit an extract from the "Italie,"* giving details respecting the alleged illness of Ras Makonnen.

It appears that on the termination of the conflict with Ras Mangascia, Ras Makonnen, by Menelek's orders, accompanied him to Bomimeda, where he had an attack of pneumonia.

He returned to the district of Tigre, where he consulted the Italian doctor Mozzetti on several occasions.

He recovered, but after some weeks, had a relapse, his illness being this time aggravated by the opening of an old wound received at the siege of Makalle, where, in order to avoid Menelek's suspicions, he fought at the head of his column contrary to the usual habit of Chiefs, who do not as a rule take part personally in actions.

The Italian Government is stated to be taking keen interest in the state of Ras Makonnen's illness, as his death might have serious consequences on the future of Erythræa, as Ras Makonnen, as Chief of Tigre, is considered to be a guarantee of peace.

The source of this somewhat circumstantial information is not given.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. F. BONHAM.

No. 55.

Foreign Office to the Law Officers of the Crown.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, August 12, 1899.

I HAVE the honour, by direction of the Marquess of Salisbury, to transmit to you the draft of an Order in Council for the administration of justice in the territories comprised in the Somaliland Protectorate which has recently been transferred by the Government of India to the Imperial Government.

This draft Order has been prepared by Mr. Gray in consultation with Colonel Hayes Sadler, Her Majesty's Consul-General on the Somali Coast, and with this Department. An explanatory letter from Mr. Gray is annexed to the draft.

A copy of the East Africa Order in Council of 1897, on which the new Order is modelled, is also inclosed for convenience of reference.

I am to request that you will take this draft Order into your consideration, and favour Lord Salisbury with your opinion whether it can properly be submitted to Her Majesty in Council in its present form; and if not, to indicate such amendments and modifications as you may consider necessary or desirable.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

[For Annex, see page 122.]

No. 56.

Mr. Raikes to the Marquess of Salisbury.---(Received August 14.)

(No. 165.)

My Lord,

Brussels, August 13, 1899.

THE "Moniteur du Commerce Belge" of the 11th instant announces the formation of a Company called the "Société Générale Belge-Égyptienne" to carry out in Egypt and the Egyptian Soudan every kind of financial, industrial, and commercial operation as well as public works.

It has a capital of 400,000*l.* besides founders' shares.

The Board of Directors consists of Prince Hussein Pasha Khameh, Jules Blum Pasha, and a number of Belgians, including M. J. Urban.

I presume this is the M. J. Urban who is Chairman of the Congo Railway.

I have, &c.
(Signed) ARTHUR S. RAIKES.

No. 57.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 18.)

(No. 58.)

My Lord,

Hargaisa, July 27, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to submit, for your Lordship's approval, a revised draft of Rules for the granting of mining licences in the Somali Coast Protectorate, as desired in Foreign Office despatch No. 42 of the 8th May last.

I fear I was not sufficiently explicit in explaining the draft Rules previously submitted. I had intended the Concession and the Bond to be one and the same instrument, as was the case in the Concession lately granted to Mr. MacConkey. I had also made use of the term "Concession," as that was the term employed in the agreement with Mr. MacConkey.

I have now substituted the term "licence," and have more closely followed the Indian Rules throughout, particularly in differentiating between an exploring licence and a prospecting licence. Hitherto the terms "exploring" and "prospecting" have been treated locally as more or less synonymous; but the difference between the two is so marked in the Indian Rules that, in recasting my adaptation of these Rules to the requirements of the Protectorate, I have thought it advisable to provide for both classes of licence—the former authorizing the licensee to explore in any part of the country he may wish, subject to the consent of the tribes or occupiers of the land, but the licence conferring no exclusive or preferential rights; the latter conferring exclusive rights over a certain area, limited by the Rules after the explorer has seen the country and selected the land on which he proposes to commence operations.

Rule 17 contains the substantive regulations which will apply to all prospecting and mining licences, and which, therefore, need not be entered in the licence itself. There seems no necessity to apply them in the case of the more general exploring licence.

Each mining licence will contain a punitive clause, carrying forfeiture of the licence and minerals in possession for breach of any of the conditions of the licence, or failure to comply with the Regulations. If, then, the fact of the acceptance by the licensee of the licence with the conditions attached is held to be sufficiently binding on him to preclude any legal objection to the enforcement of the punitive clause in the event of a breach, we might dispense with a bond altogether, as is done in the Indian Rules.

Should a bond be considered necessary, I would suggest the following in place of Rule 17, Rule 17 in the draft becoming Rule 18:—

"Bond.

"17. In every case in which a mining licence is granted, and before such licence can be acted on, a bond will be required from the licensee binding himself to fulfil the terms of his licence and obey the regulations in respect of which it is granted, under pain of determination of his licence and forfeiture of all minerals on his premises."

As the punitive clause in the licence will of itself be quite severe enough, I hardly see the use, so far as the Protectorate is concerned, of taking a cash deposit from the licensee.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

Inclosure in No. 57.

*Draft of Rules for the grant of Exploring and Prospecting Licences, and Licences for Mining or Export of Minerals from the Somali Coast Protectorate.**Extent and Application of the Rules.*

THE following Rules apply to all exploring and prospecting licences and licences for the mining for, and export of, minerals of all descriptions from the Somali Coast Protectorate, such minerals having been produced within the area of the Protectorate.

Licences to Explore.

1. Licences to explore for minerals in the Somali Coast Protectorate may be issued by the Consul-General.
2. Each licence shall run for one year, but may be renewed for a similar term. A fee of 10 rupees will be charged for each licence or renewal thereof.
3. Export duty at the rates mentioned in Schedule (B) will be levied on all minerals found and removed by an explorer, whether he has taken out a licence or not.
4. In the case of precious stones, the discovery of such stones must be reported to the Consul-General within a reasonable time. Neglect to do so will render the explorer liable to the forfeiture of his licence and of all claim to favourable consideration of any application for a prospecting or mining licence.
5. A licence to explore merely confers on the licensee the right to search for minerals within the area specified in the licence, and subject to the tribes or occupiers of the land. It conveys no exclusive or preferential rights, but in considering rival claims for a prospecting or mining licence due regard will be had to operations conducted under an exploring licence.

Prospecting Licences.

6. A licence to prospect for minerals or mineral oil shall confer on the licensee the sole right, subject to the conditions contained in the licence, to enter into arrangements with the tribes or occupiers of the land to mine, quarry, bore, dig, and search for, win, work, and carry away any mineral or mineral oil specified in the licence, and lying or being within, under, or throughout the land specified in the licence. These arrangements will be effected through the Consular officer of the district in which the land is situated, and will be subject to the approval of the Consul-General. They will be reduced to writing, and will be duly recorded.

7. Every application for a prospecting licence must be presented in writing to the Consul-General, and shall contain the following particulars, namely:—

- (a.) The name, residence, and profession of the applicant;
- (b.) A description as accurate as possible, and illustrated by a rough sketch map, of the situation and area of the land with respect to which the licence is required; and
- (c.) A specification of the minerals or minerals for which the applicant desires to prospect.

On the receipt of such application, the Consul-General shall cause such inquiries as he may consider necessary to be made, and if he finds that there is no objection to the grant of the licence applied for, may grant to the applicant a licence in such form as may be prescribed:

Provided that in the case of other than British subjects the orders of Her Majesty's Government shall be required before a licence is granted.

9. A register of applications for prospecting licences shall be kept in the Consul-General's office, specifying briefly the particulars of each application received. There shall also be recorded in the same office a copy of each licence issued by the Consul-General under these Rules.

10. Every prospecting licence shall contain such conditions as may in any particular case seem necessary, but shall in all cases contain the following conditions:—

(1.) The term for which the licence shall be granted shall be one year, or such shorter term as the applicant may desire. The licence may be renewed by the Consul-General for a further term not exceeding two years, whenever he is satisfied that the licensee has been prevented from completing his search of the land by any cause other than his own default.

(2.) No land in the occupation of any tribe or person shall be entered upon without the consent of the occupier, and the licensee shall abide by the terms of the arrangements he enters into with the tribes or occupiers of the land covered by the licence.

(3.) The licensee shall pay export duty on all minerals and precious stones removed from the Protectorate at the rates mentioned in the attached Schedule (B).

(4.) Such licence cannot be assigned, nor any right or interest thereunder be transferred without the consent of the Consul-General.

(5.) In case of any breach on the part of the licensee, or his employés, of any of the conditions of his licence, or of any clause of the Regulations, hereinafter mentioned, under which the licence is granted, the Consul-General may summarily revoke the licence, and thereupon all rights conferred thereby or enjoyed thereunder shall cease.

(6.) Should any question arise regarding the licence, or any matter or thing connected therewith, or the powers of the licensee thereunder, the matter in difference shall be decided by the Consul-General, whose decision shall be final.

11. On or before the determination of his licence, the licensee shall have a right, subject to the Rules hereinafter contained—

(a.) In the case of mineral oil or minerals other than precious stones, to a mining licence in accordance with the terms contained in the Regulations for mining licences.

(b.) In the case of precious stones, to the first offer of such mining licence as Her Majesty's Government may think fit to grant.

Such licence may include so much land, whether comprising the whole or a part only of the area for which the prospecting licence was granted, as shall not exceed the area specified with respect to mining licences in the annexed Schedule (A).

Mining Licences.

12. Every application for a mining licence shall be presented to the Consul-General in writing, stating clearly the object in view and the means by which it is proposed to effect that object. It shall further contain:—

(a.) The name, residence, and profession of the applicant;

(b.) The name of the mineral for which the applicant intends to mine;

(c.) A map of the area over which the proposed licence is to extend.

The application may then be registered.

13. The Consul-General may then institute any further inquiries that may appear to him to be necessary, and may appoint a day when the applicant, or his agent, and the Heads of the tribe or tribes concerned, will be heard. The applicant shall show to the satisfaction of the Consul-General that he has effected honest prospecting to a sufficient extent to gauge roughly the future prospects of the concern, or, at any rate, to indicate that there is some real chance of a successful issue being attained. The rights of the tribal owners, or occupiers, of the land will be considered, and a record made of the same. The terms of the arrangements entered into between the applicant and the tribal owners, or occupiers of the land will then be reduced to writing and explained to both parties, their comments or objections, if any, being recorded:

Provided that, when the applicant cannot appear personally or by agent, written application may be dealt with as above.

14. When the terms of the arrangements between the applicant and the tribal owners, or occupiers, of the land have been finally settled and agreed to by the parties, the Consul-General may, if the applicant is entitled to a licence under Rule 11, or if he thinks that the applicant should be granted a mining licence, grant the same in accordance with these Rules, over such one or more blocks, each not exceeding in extent the area specified in Schedule (A), as he may think fit; or he may refer the application for the orders of Her Majesty's Government:

Provided that no mining licence shall be granted by the Consul-General under these Rules so as to cause the total area held under mining licences by the licensee, or by those in joint interest with him, to exceed 10 square miles:

Provided also that no licence to mine for precious stones shall be granted by the Consul-General without the orders of Her Majesty's Government.

15. The term for which a mining licence may be granted shall not exceed thirty years, and no covenant for renewal may be inserted in the licence without the sanction of Her Majesty's Government.

16. Every mining licence shall contain such conditions and stipulations as may in each particular case seem necessary, but shall in every case contain the following conditions, namely:—

(i.) The licensee shall pay export duty at the rate fixed for the particular mineral in respect of which the licence is granted; and if any other mineral shall be discovered by him, then export duty shall be paid therefor at such a rate, not being less than 20 per cent. of the value thereof as Her Majesty's Government may determine, until a mining licence has been obtained in respect of such mineral; but the licensee shall be entitled to require and obtain such licence for the term then unexpired of his original licence upon the terms hereinbefore mentioned in these Rules.

(ii.) Neither the licensee nor any person claiming through or under him shall assign the licence, or transfer any right or interest thereunder, or underlet the whole or any portion of the premises comprised in such licence, without the consent of Her Majesty's Government first had and obtained.

(iii.) The licensee shall commence operations within two years from the date of the grant of the licence and shall thereafter carry them on in a proper, skilful, and mining-like manner, unless prevented by unavoidable cause.

(iv.) The licensee shall keep correct accounts, showing the quantity and particulars of all minerals obtained from the mine and the number of persons employed therein, and also complete plans of the mine, and shall allow any officer authorized by the Consul-General at any time to examine such accounts and plans, and shall furnish the Consul-General with such information and returns in respect of the aforesaid matter as he may prescribe; all information and returns obtained or furnished under this clause shall be treated as strictly confidential.

(v.) The licensee shall, without delay, send to the Consul-General a report of any accident which may occur at or in the premises covered by the licence, and also the finding therein of any mineral not specified in the licence.

(vi.) In case of any breach on the part of the licensee or his employés of any condition contained in the licence, or of any clause of the Regulations hereinafter mentioned under which the licence is granted, Her Majesty's Government may determine the licence, and take possession of the premises and all minerals thereon.

(vii.) Should any question or dispute arise regarding the licence, or any matter or thing connected with the mine and minerals, or the working or non-working thereof, or the amount of export duty payable on the minerals, the matter in difference shall be referred to Her Majesty's Government, whose decision thereon shall be final.

(viii.) At the end or sooner determination of the licence, the licensee shall peacefully deliver possession of all lands occupied by him, and all mines dug therein, unless the licence be previously renewed by Her Majesty's Government or by the Consul-General for a further term.

17. All prospecting and mining licences granted under these Rules will be subject to the following Regulations with which it is incumbent on the licensee to comply:—

(i.) The licensee will admit the jurisdiction of the local Courts in all cases of dispute, and will abide by all orders of the Consul-General.

(ii.) The licensee shall abstain from all interference with tribal or inter-tribal matters.

(iii.) The licensee will not sell, give, or barter arms or ammunition to or with the natives; and will not introduce into the premises covered by his licence any spirituous liquors, except for the use of European employés.

(iv.) All plant and material shall be imported, and all minerals be exported, through a Protectorate port.

(v.) The licensee shall abide by the orders of the Consul-General with regard to the employment or non-employment of foreign labourers or workmen.

(vi.) The licensee shall make such arrangements for the arming of his servants, or employés, and for the protection of his works, if any, as may appear to the Consul-General to be right and proper.

(vii.) The Consul-General, or any officer or servant of Government deputed by him, shall have access at all times to the land covered by the licence, and may inspect any operations being conducted.

(viii.) Neither Her Majesty's Government nor the Administration of the Protectorate shall be under any liability to the licensee in the event of any raids or other interruptions by the tribes or inhabitants of the Protectorate.

SCHEDULE (A).

MAXIMUM Area in square miles for a Mining Licence.

	Sq. miles.
Coal	2
Oil	1
Gold or silver	$\frac{1}{4}$
Metals	$\frac{1}{2}$
Precious stones	(*)

* Will be decided by Her Majesty's Government in each case on its merits.

SCHEDULE (B).

EXPORT Duty.

Coal	1 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .
Metals and oil	4 " "
Gold and silver	4 " "
Precious stones	15 " "

No. 58.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 18.)

(No. 59. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Hargaisa, July 30, 1899.

IN continuation of my despatch No. 55, Confidential, of the 16th instant, I have the honour to report that Sultan Nur has sent an evasive reply to my second letter, saying that opposition to the Government is not good, but that he has grievances, and that if these are redressed and all is well between us he will return the Sowa's camels and arms. This is merely continuing his attitude of opposition and insolence, and he will have to be dealt with accordingly.

It may, perhaps, be as well that I should state what these grievances are; they are three:—

1. That he is unable to recover a claim for double blood-money from the Ogaden tribes for the death at their hands of his son some three years ago;

2. That his tribesmen will not obey him, and that he is not allowed a free hand to coerce them; and

3. That we will not give him arms to coerce his rival, Madhar Hirsi.

With regard to his first grievance I repeatedly told him in Berbera that his son was killed when his tribe were at open war with the Ogaden, and that, therefore, according to Somali custom, no blood-money was claimable. Still the Ogaden, I understood, had agreed to pay him single blood-money, which he refused to accept. He was also reminded that a persistence in his present claim would only lead to a similar claim being preferred against the Habr Yunis on account of one of the Ogaden Sultans killed by them in a previous engagement. I further told Sultan Nur that I was anxious to bring all causes of difference between the Ogaden and our tribes to an end, and that if an opportunity occurred I would see whether it would be possible to

come to some arrangement more in accordance with his wishes, but that the matter could not be pressed both because the Ogaden were outside our jurisdiction, and because I considered they were doing more than they were obliged to do in agreeing to pay a single blood-money claim.

As regards grievance No. 2, I have frequently told Nur that he was elected Sultan by his own tribe, and that though we acknowledge him as such and will uphold his authority as far as we legitimately can, we would not force his tribes to obey him; that rested between him and them; nor could we allow him a free hand to coerce and loot peaceful sections of the Habr Yunis, whose only fault was that they refused to admit his authority, as some of them had done from the time of his election.

In connection with No. 3, I reminded him that this was no new request; it had been made to successive Administrators, and refused as often as made. It was our object, I told him, to keep the peace in the Protectorate and not to encourage tribal warfare, and that it would be time to check Madhar Hirsi if he moved against him, which he had hitherto shown no inclination to do. As a matter of fact there had been a fight some years ago between these rival factions in which each lost heavily, and since then neither side has been inclined to renew hostilities.

These, then, are Sultan Nur's grievances for the redress of which he repaired to the Mullah, and it was owing to the sudden elation caused by the fancied removal of No. 2 through the Mullah's agency that he has adopted his present attitude. He knows now the actual worth of the position he imagined he had secured. He is said to be trying to get together a force from the Habr Toljaala or Dolbahanta to coerce the friendly Habr Yunis sections; and reports are still current of a meeting between him and the Mullah at Odweina about this time. Sultan Nur has fallen out with the Habr Toljaala and is hardly likely to receive assistance from that quarter; whilst, as regards the Dolbahanta, his rival, Madhar Hirsi, has been for some time with the Mullahand, will not help matters for him there. Moreover, the time is not favourable for any movement of tribesmen on a large scale; the season has been a bad one and water is scarce, the tribes have returned earlier than usual to their wells, and are engaged in watering their flocks.

Within the last week I have received deputations from the western sections of the Habr Yunis, including Sultan Nur's own sections, professing loyalty to the Administration and detestation of Nur and all his works, and asking for "aman" and permission to trade as usual with our ports. I told them that we had no quarrel with the Habr Yunis, who do not side with Nur in his opposition to us; and that as long as they hold aloof from him in his present attitude they were free to come and go as they pleased.

With the Aidagalleh it looked at one time as if we should have difficulty. This tribe has frequently given trouble. It had to make good some 1,150 sheep and 30 camels to the Habr Awal Ayal Ahmed and Ayal Yunis on account of raids committed last year, and for which the latter have been waiting patiently for nearly a twelvemonth. It was important at this juncture that the orders with regard to the restitution of this property should be carried out without further delay, and one of my principal objects in sending for Sultan Deria was to see to this. He appeared somewhat suddenly in my camp with some fifty followers, and at the interview I had with him he tried to make the restitution of the property contingent on my granting certain requests he had to make. This, of course, could not be allowed. After a long argument as to the terms of the decision, which I refused to consider on the grounds that it was right in itself, and that objections could not be entertained so late in the day, Sultan Deria and his people agreed to collect the animals at once, and arrangements being made accordingly, the interview terminated. Shortly after this, Sultan Deria was persuaded by some of his relations, who had previously given trouble, and completely veered round. He tried to take a high hand, and again made conditions about the return of the property, to which he adhered with a good deal of persistence. One of these conditions was that he be given a paper declaring that he is the Sultan of the Aidagalleh, and that we will exercise no interference with him or his tribe outside the coast towns. He admitted that he had received several letters from the Mullah and from Sultan Nur, with whom he is connected by marriage, and it was easy to see whence the idea of the paper emanated. Generally, he was most obstinate and persistent and difficult to deal with. A stern warning, and allusion to the difficulties which awaited Sultan Nur, followed by certain communications made to him later on by my Dragoman under my instructions, brought Sultan Deria to his senses.

He appeared again before me the next day with quite a changed demeanour. He professed his willingness to proceed at once to collect the property, leaving it to me to consider his requests after this was done. These requests were now confined to helping him to regain the allegiance of some sections of his tribe who had seceded from him, to allowing his own particular section an Akil as he could not get on with the present Akils, and to demarcating a boundary between his tribe and the Habr Awal. With regard to the first, I told him that so long as his attitude remained satisfactory he would always find us willing to assist him in upholding his authority over his people so long as it is legitimately exercised; that as regards an Akil for his own section there would probably be no difficulty in meeting his wishes; and that the question of a boundary might certainly be considered, but that it was fraught with so many difficulties in a country where tribal limits overlap and the movements of the tribes depend upon conditions of pasturage and water, that any early solution of the question could not be expected. These, however, I added, were matters upon which he could speak to me after the property had been restored. He then left, saying he would at once take steps to carry out the terms of the decision. He has so far kept his word, and more than half of the animals have been collected.

It was evident that Sultan Deria and his people attempted to make capital out of the movement in the Dolbahanta, and they were only just taken in time.

As regards the Habr Toljaala, reports from Berbera are that the tribes are commencing to come into Berbera, and that they are forsaking the Mullah's cause. The want of provisions naturally brings them into our ports, but there is also probably truth in the reports that they are getting tired of the exactions of the Mullah and his followers, and are beginning to see that they will get no good out of the movement.

Reports from the Dolbahanta, apparently on good authority, are to the effect that the Mullah has gone off his head. It is said that he fired twice at his nephew, killing his horse, and that he was only prevented from doing further damage by being seized by his followers. His father, it is also said, has now deserted him.

In Berbera itself the seizure of a caravan of eighteen camels laden with provisions for the Mullah's camp, which left under a safe-conduct issued by the Mullah, coupled with the arrest of an Arab merchant who dispatched the caravan and who has been acting as the Mullah's agent, and of a Mullah just arrived from Mecca and on his way with the caravan to the Dolbahanta, will have a deterrent effect on those who are still inclined to sympathize with the Mullah, and assist him in word or kind.

Unless a forward move is now made by the Mullah to coerce, in conjunction with Nur, the friendly sections of the Habr Yunis, in which case complications would undoubtedly ensue, I am inclined to think that the movement will now probably subside, or resolve itself into the operations of a robber band on the confines of the Protectorate. At least, as far as can be judged, this promises to be the aspect during the trading season, when the tribes take their supplies from the coast.

Repudiated by his own sections of his tribe, unless he flees to the Dolbahanta, Nur should not be difficult to deal with. If he comes in as he probably will do if the Mullah does not come to his assistance, I propose to inflict a fine of 2,000 rupees on him. It is questionable whether we should again recognize him as Sultan; this, I think, should depend on the manner of his submission. If he does not come in then we shall have to arrest him as soon as we are ready to move; and in that case I am of opinion that he should be detained for a time in the Aden gaol.

I have entered somewhat into detail in this despatch as I wished to show the present position of affairs in the Protectorate. It will be seen, as illustrated by the attitude of Sultan Deria and the Aidagalleh, that in dealing with the tribes we are considerably hampered by the events which arose in the Dolbahanta. So far as can be judged the agitation appears to be subsiding, but with a religious and political movement of this kind we never know what form it will assume, or how it will eventually terminate.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

P.S.—A copy of this despatch is being sent to Cairo.

J. H. S.

No. 59.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir R. Rodd.

(No. 166.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 18, 1899.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 145 of the 4th instant, inclosing copies of four further Ordinances relating to the administration of the Soudan, and dealing respectively with the house tax, the boat tax, public ferries, and the occupations of auctioneer and pedlar.

These Ordinances are approved by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 60.

Foreign Office to Consul-General Sadler.

(No. 77.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 18, 1899.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 57, Confidential, of the 22nd ultimo, reporting that the Abyssinians are preparing to send an expedition from Harrar to the Ogaden.

I am to inform you that Lord Salisbury concurs in your view that it would be advisable that the despatch of this expedition should be postponed for the present, and his Lordship approves the action you have taken in the matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

No. 61.

Sir R. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 21.)

(No. 148.)

My Lord,

Cairo, August 9, 1899.

WITH reference to Viscount Cromer's despatch No. 116 of the 23rd June last, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship copy of a letter which I have received from the Italian Agent and Consul-General, confirming the acceptance by the Italian Government of the draft Customs Convention between the Soudan and Erythræa, as proposed by Viscount Cromer (Inclosure 2 in the despatch above referred to).

In the *aide-mémoire* accompanying Lord Cromer's despatch, his Lordship stated in connection with Article II that it was possible that the Italian Government might wish to make some special reserves of the nature of those contained in Articles III, IV, and V.

The Italian Government have not yet specified any such exceptions to the 5 per cent. treatment, but, in communicating their acceptance of the scheme, M. Tugini states that they reserve to themselves the right of similarly excluding certain categories of goods from the favoured treatment secured by the Convention, should they wish to do so hereafter.

I have the honour to inclose a copy of a note which I have addressed to M. Tugini in reply, in which I have stated that we should await a further communication, in the event of the Italian Government deciding to make any exceptions to the general rule laid down for the treatment of Soudanese goods entering Erythræa.

In the meantime, the Convention has been put in force from the 1st instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 61.

M. Tugini to Sir R. Rodd.

Cher M. Rodd,

Le Caire, le 6 Août, 1899.

ME référant à ma lettre du 21 Juillet dernier, je tiens à vous communiquer un télégramme du Ministère des Affaires Étrangères de Rome. En voici la teneur:—

“Je vous confirme notre acceptation de l'accord douanier entre l'Érythrée et le Soudan, d'après le projet proposé par Lord Cromer. Mais je rappelle, à toute bonne fin, que dans le but d'établir la parfaite réciprocité pour les marchandises de production locale importées respectivement en Érythrée et au Soudan, nous nous réservons d'indiquer si et quelles marchandises d'origine Soudanaise doivent être exclues, à leur entrée en Érythrée, du traitement de faveur du 5 pour cent.”

Je pense que vous êtes d'accord avec nous sur ce point, qui, du reste, s'entend de soi-même.

Vous me feriez plaisir si vous vouliez m'écrire un mot.

Votre très dévoué.
(Signé) TUGINI.

Inclosure 2 in No. 61.

Sir R. Rodd to M. Tugini.

M. le Ministre,

Le Caire, le 9 Août, 1899.

J'AI l'honneur de vous accuser réception de votre lettre du 6 Août, par laquelle vous avez eu la bonté de confirmer l'acceptation par le Gouvernement du Roi de l'accord douanier entre l'Érythrée et le Soudan, d'après le projet proposé par Lord Cromer. En confirmant son acceptation, le Gouvernement du Roi se réserve d'indiquer “si et quelles marchandises d'origine Soudanaise doivent être exclues, à leur entrée en Érythrée, du traitement de faveur du 5 pour cent,” ainsi qu'il a été fait de notre part certaines réserves pour les marchandises d'origine Érythréenne à leur entrée au Soudan.

En attendant une communication ultérieure de votre part, qui statuera sur les marchandises exclues du traitement de faveur, dans le cas où le Gouvernement du Roi se décidera d'en exclure certaines catégories, je saisis, &c.

(Signé) RENNELL RODD.

No. 61*.

Sir R. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 21, 1899.)

(No. 149.)

My Lord,

Cairo, August 10, 1899.

SINCE writing my despatch No. 144 of the 4th instant, I have had the advantage of seeing Colonel Collinson, the Commandant of the Kassala district, who is familiar with the country on the northern portion of the proposed frontier to be established with Abyssinia.

Colonel Collinson confirms the view which I had the honour to submit to your Lordship with regard to the district marked Kedawi on the map, which has been used for the purpose of the negotiations with King Menelek. The whole district inclosed between the Bahr-el-Salam on the north, and the Atbara on the west and south, is a tract of rough bush country uninhabited by any stable population, though the Abyssinian outlaw, Wolda Mariam, is at present supposed to be in hiding there. The inhabitants on the borders of the district make short expeditions into the bush to collect gum. It would be quite impossible to come to a settlement of the line here on the basis of tribal division, as there is no tribe inhabiting it.

The name Kedawi, as applied to this district, was unknown to Colonel Collinson, but Colonel Maxwell, to whom I have also referred, telegraphs from Khartoum that a Tukruri Arab, who acted as Secretary to a local Sheikh in the neighbouring country, is familiar with the name as applied to the district, and states that its eastern limit is a tributary of the Bahr-el-Salam called Sherma. This tributary is marked on the Italian maps (Gondar sheet).

Colonel Collinson is of opinion that the whole region is hardly worth claiming, and that the Atbara would make the most satisfactory boundary, south of its junction with the Bahr-el-Salam. As, however, the bush with which it is covered produces gum, and Menelek does not appear to have any tangible claim to the district, it would perhaps be better to adopt some geographical boundary, as suggested in my despatch No. 144. It is clear, however, that the principle of assigning the district in accordance with tribal occupation cannot be realized in practice.

With regard to the country north of the Bahr-el-Salam, Colonel Collinson has evidence to give respecting the occupation of the Hamran Arabs. This tribe, which has always remained faithful to Egypt, consists now of little more than 100 members. They claim as their country the district inclosed between the Setit, west of Gera, and the Atbara. At Gera there is an Abyssinian flag; and the evidence of the Hamran goes to show that there have been Abyssinians at Gera for a long time. North of the Setit, where the Hamran are marked on the map, they have never actually settled, but have looked on the country as their hunting ground. Colonel Collinson suggests, therefore, as a satisfactory boundary, the line adopted by Mr. Harrington, starting from Todluk and drawn to Ombrega on the Setit. He thinks it should then follow the median line of the Setit westwards to Gera, which might remain Abyssinian; and from Gera the line should be drawn either to the junction of the Bahr-el-Salam and the Atbara, if the Kedawi country be abandoned, or to the point on the Bahr-el-Salam adopted as the eastern limit of Kedawi if it be retained.

If Colonel Collinson's suggestions were adopted, there would be a considerable concession to Menelek on the map, which might be utilized to counter-balance claims put forward on our part in other directions.

With regard to Metemmeh, Colonel Collinson considers that the best way to meet the King's views would be to take as the line of partition a stream, which has a constant water supply, known as the Khor Abrakara, running north to the Atbara; this stream is crossed by the caravan road to Gondar. To retire from the fort at Gallabat, where the Abyssinian flag is still flying together with the British and Egyptian flags, would imply the loss of control over the district and a serious loss of prestige. But it would, in Colonel Collinson's opinion, be perfectly practicable to cede to Menelek a tract some 2 miles broad on either side of the Gondar road, on the eastern bank of the Khor Abrakara. I inclose a rough sketch map showing the relative positions of the Gallabat fort and the Khor in question, drawn on a scale of 12 inches to the mile.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

No. 62.

Sir R. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 21.)

(No. 150. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Cairo, August 11, 1899.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 149 of the 10th instant, I have the honour to report that my attention has recently been unofficially drawn by the Italian Consul-General to a number of petty frontier incidents in the Kassala district, reported to him by the Acting Governor of Erythræa, which are, I gather, largely due to the absence of any clear definition of the limits of the respective jurisdictions in that region. The frontier negotiations with Abyssinia also emphasize the necessity for clearing up one or two points upon which, it appears to me, ambiguity must continue to exist until the views of the Italian Government have been clearly defined.

On the 18th January, 1898, Lord Cromer reported to your Lordship, in his despatch No. 12, that he had inquired of the Italian Representative what were the boundaries recognized to the south of Kassala as separating Erythraean from Abyssinian territory. In reply, M. Tugini communicated to his Lordship a despatch from the

Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs, in which the boundary was stated to be traced by a line starting from Tomat, on the Atbara, running north-east to Todluk, on the Mareb, and thence following the course of the Mareb to Mai Daro.

It was assumed that, with the cession of Kassala, the region to the south, extending to the Tomat-Todluk line, was also ceded. But this has nowhere been definitely laid down. As a matter of fact, the 2nd Article of the Act of Cession of Kassala (inclosed in Lord Cromer's No. 16 of the 23rd January, 1898) provides that the settling of boundaries is left to the Contracting Governments if and whenever they deem it convenient to carry it out.

The country between Kassala and the Tomat-Todluk line is a plain cultivated by the population of Kassala, and has always been looked on as its natural dependency.

The boundary to the east would be the line of the Khor-el-Gash, subject to certain topographical modifications.

In view of the statement made by the Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs, it was assumed here that south of the Tomat-Todluk line the country was regarded by the Italian Government as Abyssinian, except in so far as portions of it might be held to be open to the eventual reoccupation of Egypt, in view of the secret understanding securing the reversionary interests of the Egyptian Government.

That these views are, however, not altogether shared by the authorities in Erythræa has been revealed to me by certain passages in a Memorandum, complaining of various frontier incidents, drawn up by Colonel Trombi, the Acting Governor of Erythræa, which the Italian Consul-General has unofficially communicated to me.

In this Memorandum the writer speaks of the lower basin of the Setit as a country "which, whether in virtue of the Treaty of 1891, or in virtue of that concluded by us with the Negus, is dependent on Italy."

Now, inasmuch as the whole course of the Setit up to its junction with the Atbara is, if our maps are correct, well south of the Tomat-Todluk line, it is difficult to reconcile the latter part of this statement with the information given by the Italian Government to the effect that their former frontier south of Kassala was bounded by a line drawn from Tomat to Todluk.

A complaint is preferred in the same Memorandum that an Italian subject, authorized by the Italian authorities to shoot in the Bazé country, had been turned back, on the grounds that the Sirdar had prohibited shooting. Now the Bazé country appears to lie also south of Todluk, and the continuation along the Mareb, of what was understood to be Italian territory; but investigations have shown that the Italian subject in question came down the Setit to the Atbara and crossed to Tomat, and that it was in the Hamran country that he was informed that shooting was prohibited by the Sirdar's orders.

For these reasons, and in view of the pending frontier negotiations with Abyssinia, I have the honour to submit that it would appear desirable to clear up definitely the question of frontier delimitation with Italy also before finally deciding upon Todluk as the point of departure.

From Sabderat, in Italian territory, east of Kassala, to the Baraka, and from the Baraka to the Red Sea, the line has been finally delimited and land-marks established. There remains only the delimitation south-east of Kassala.

Colonel Collinson, who has recently come down from Kassala, informs me that Sabderat is situated on high ground a few miles from the Atbara. The gardens and cultivated land of Kassala extend across the Khor-el-Gash, but on proceeding upstream the Sabderat ridge approaches close to the Khor, which, south-east of Kassala, would form the natural boundary all the way to Todluk.

On the return of Lord Kitchener next week, I hope to be able to obtain his opinion on this point, and shall not fail to report it to your Lordship. In the meantime, I have ventured to draw your Lordship's attention, in connection with other despatches on the Abyssinian frontier, to a question which would appear to call for preliminary settlement.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

No. 63.

Sir R. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 21.)

(No. 160.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, August 21, 1899.

ABDUL SAMUD, a Chief of the friendly Arabs, informs the Sirdar that he is encamped two days march west of the Khalifa's position, but that the tribes will not attack the latter without Government support, which the Chief urgently requests in view of the demoralization of the Dervish force.

Lord Kitchener left Cairo yesterday for Omdurman, and on arrival there will decide whether anything can be done. In the meantime, he has directed full inquiries to be made as to the localities.

No. 63*.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir R. Rodd.

(No. 90.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, August 21, 1899.

M. ILG has informed Captain Harrington that a Captain of the Russian Imperial Guards named Boulatovitch left Addis Abbaba on the 8th ultimo. He intended to follow the same route as Mr. Weld-Blundell and Lord Lovat took.

In Harrington's opinion, Boulatovitch is not a person whom it would be desirable to allow to travel in the Soudan. He proposes that the Commandant at Fazogl should be instructed either to let Boulatovitch know that travellers are forbidden to enter the Soudan for the present, or else have him conducted safely to Khartoum.

Please acquaint the Sirdar with above.

No. 64.

Sir R. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 23.)

(No. 162.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, August 23, 1899.

WITH reference to your Lordship's telegram of the 21st instant on the subject of Captain Boulatovitch's proposed journey, the Sirdar suggests that an intimation might be conveyed to the Emperor Menelek through Mr. Harrington, to the effect that, at present, only Abyssinian and British travellers are permitted to enter the Soudan, and that it is hoped, therefore, that His Majesty will allow no others to cross the Soudan frontier.

In the present instance, Captain Boulatovitch will be passed north by the quickest route available.

No. 65.

Foreign Office to India Office.

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 25, 1899.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to transmit to you, to be laid before Lord G. Hamilton, copies of a despatch from Her Majesty's Consul-General for the Somali Coast respecting the transfer of the securities standing to the credit of the Rer Hared Fund in the Aden Treasury to the name of the Consul-General.*

Lord Salisbury proposes, should Lord G. Hamilton see no objection thereto, to approve the arrangement arrived at by Lieutenant-Colonel Hayes-Sadler.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

FRANCIS BERTIE.

* No. 50.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 28.)

(No. 61.)

My Lord,

Hargaisa, August 5, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to report progress in the matter of the scheme for the reconstruction of the police forces of the Protectorate.

At Zeyla the enlistment of the required number of recruits has been completed with the exception of two men. The former regular police, who are all Soudanese, will be drafted into the reformed or military police. A few Soudanese, who happened to be passing through Aden on their way to their homes from the east coast, have been enlisted for this corps which will thus be principally composed of Soudanese at Zeyla.

The Zeyla civil police and the portion of the camel corps recruited there locally will be composed of carefully selected Somalis.

On the Berbera side fifty-eight recruits have been entertained on probation, and these were mostly entertained before the end of April. Of these only 1 per cent. are Soudanese and foreigners, such as Indians and Arabs, and all attempts to obtain more of this class either locally or at Aden have failed.

In view of recent events it is absolutely necessary that there should be a larger foreign element in the Berbera police forces, and as all other means failed, and men could not be obtained from Egypt at our rates of pay, I lately telegraphed to our Consul at Suakin asking if he could obtain me twenty men and a havildar on the scale of pay for the reformed police. His reply was to the effect that Soudanese were difficult to get; but that possibly he could make up the number with other blacks. I accordingly wired last week to say that blacks would do, though I should prefer to have Soudanese, and I agreed to pay the passage of married men's wives, and asked that the party might be sent to Aden, whence they will be shipped to Berbera; I also asked for one havildar to be sent with the men.

I trust that this will meet with your Lordship's approval.

If the plan of getting men from Suakin at our rates of pay answers, we might gradually introduce a further number. Should it be found that Soudanese and blacks cannot be obtainable from Suakin, I see no help for it but to ask your Lordship to allow me, if possible, to obtain a certain proportion of Soudanese from Egypt at whatever rate of pay they may be found willing to accept. On this point I will do myself the honour of addressing your Lordship later on, when I hear definitely from Suakin.

Of the recruits entertained at Berbera some have had to be dismissed for tribal reasons, and it is probable that when they are put through a course of musketry further rejections will follow. The men I have asked for from Suakin will, therefore, come within the sanctioned establishment. I may, however, have to ask for a slight increase of establishment to provide for posts at Hais and Mait, for which the duties that would then be levied at those flag ports would pay.

The recruits enlisted at Zeyla and Berbera have, pending the receipt of their arms and accoutrements, been entertained at the lowest rate of pay sanctioned for the civil police, with the exception of the Soudanese at Zeyla, who had to be at once put on a par with the Soudanese already in the regular police. The recruits are being drilled by havildars belonging to the detachments of native infantry on the coast.

Arms and accoutrements and ammunition for both the camel corps and the military and civil police are being obtained from the Cairo Arsenal. Saddles for the camel corps are being made in the Bombay Arsenal—the double saddle now in use in the corps being found better adapted to our requirements than the Egyptian pattern.

I am unable as yet to make any proposals for the withdrawal of the detachments of native infantry now serving on the coast. The arms and accoutrements required for the police should shortly arrive, and when the men have been drilled to their arms and put through a course of musketry with their new weapon, I shall hope to be able to dispense with the Zeyla detachment, and possibly with that at Bulhar. Political considerations will probably render it necessary to retain the Berbera detachment somewhat longer.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 28.)

(No. 62.)

My Lord,

Hargaisa, August 5, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to invite your Lordship's attention to the annexed Tables showing the value of the trade between Aden and the flag and non-flag ports of the Protectorate to the east of Berbera.

This trade is quite duty free, and pays no share towards the cost of administering the Protectorate.

Suggestions have at various times been put forward with a view to taxing a portion of this trade, but nothing has come of them.

Beyond Karam we have no police post on the coast to the east of Berbera. It is important, particularly at present, that we should keep a closer look-out along our seaboard to prevent the ingress of arms, and although it is impossible to keep an effective watch over our long line of coast, I think that the location of a couple of posts on the unprotected coast-line between Karam and Shellao, the furthest of the flag-ports, will, undoubtedly, be a move in the right direction.

With the non-flag ports to the east of Shellao we cannot at present interfere; they belong to the Warsangli tribes over whom we have hitherto exercised no control in their country, and the time has not yet come for us to reconsider our relations with them.

The Headmen of the Habr-Toljaala-Musa-Abokr-Abdur-Rahmin of Hais, and the Headmen of the Habr-Gerhajis-Musa-Arreh of Mait, have both broached the subject of police protection for their ports, and though they did not allude to the question of duty, they are aware that wherever we afford police protection on the coast we tax the trade thus protected.

I would propose, for your Lordship's consideration, that arrangements be made with the Elders of the sections above referred to, for a police post of one Jemadar and eight Sepoys to be placed at each of the ports of Hais and Mait, from which we would then proceed to levy import and export duty at the usual rates. I do not think that there will be much difficulty in coming to such arrangements with these people, who are sections of tribes who trade with Berbera and are accustomed to the levy of duty at that port. It will probably be desirable to give the Elders some concession, such as an akil on 20 rupees a month for each port. No building would be required at first as each port has a mud fortlet in a tolerable state of repair in which police could be accommodated for some time to come. Possibly a small rent would be charged.

The costs of the posts would be as follows:—

	Rupees.	Rupees. Per Annum
Two Customs Officers on	75	1,800
Two Jemadars	30	720
Four Sepoys	15	720
"	14	672
"	13	1,248
Eight Sepoys	—	600
Water, contingencies, and reliefs	20	480
Two Akils on		
Total ..		6,240

Taking the average of the trade for the last two years with Aden we should realize 7,725 rupees a-year from these two ports taken together; there is, moreover, a certain amount of trade done with the southern coast of Arabia, which does not figure in the Aden Returns. I do not propose, at present, to touch the other flag ports; it would not pay us yet to tax their trade, and it is not considered probable that the taxing of Hais and Mait and leaving free the other flag ports will result in diversion of trade to the latter to any great extent; tribal differences and the difficulty of landing at certain seasons would prevent this.

Assuming that all told we only realize 7,000 rupees a-year on the trade of these ports with Aden and the southern Arabian coast, we should still, after paying all expenses, be left with a slight increase of revenue, and have the advantage of control over a portion of the coast where it is much needed.

Should this proposal meet with your Lordship's approval, I would request that I may be favoured with a reply by telegram as it is desirable that the matter should be put in hand as soon as possible after the season opens on the close of the monsoon.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

STATEMENT of Value of Trade exported to Aden from the Flag and Non-Flag Ports of the Protectorate.

Names of Ports.				1897-98	1898-99.
				Rupees.	Rupees.
Flag Ports—					
Ainterad	..	..	..	..	425
Ankor	..	..	..	4,453	1,223
Hais	..	..	..	67,106	88,203
Shellao	..	..	..	2,082	761
Hashow	..	..	..	13,234	5,842
Raghuda	..	..	..	18,334	..
Mait	..	..	..	21,761	16,948
Non-Flag Ports—					
Wakhderia	..	..	..	17,995	12,913
Kurad	..	..	..	19,688	5,873
Galwaita	..	..	..	4,330	11,875
Las Korai	..	..	..	78,037	62,629
Dur-Duri	..	..	..	22,916	5,403
Total	..	..	..	2,69,936	2,15,095

VALUE of Trade imported into the Ports from Aden.

Flag Ports—					
Ainterad	..	..	..	220	..
Ankor	..	..	..	14,505	16,607
Hais	..	..	..	77,347	1,22,365
Shellao	..	..	..	2,658	3,998
Hashow	..	..	..	19,221	14,063
Raghuda	..	..	..	520	..
Mait	..	..	..	42,105	26,325
Non-Flag Ports—					
Wakhderia	..	..	..	7,747	8,026
Kurad	..	..	..	8,651	19,371
Galwaita	..	..	..	4,651	14,621
Las Korai	..	..	..	91,780	77,745
Dur-Duri	..	..	..	12,068	23,473
Total	..	..	..	2,81,473	3,26,234
Grand total	..	..	..	5,51,409	5,41,329

No. 68.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 28.)

(No. 68.)

My Lord,

Hargaisa, August 6, 1899.

IT is, I consider, necessary to have an officer placed in charge of our police forces. They have to be drilled with a new arm, a large proportion of them are new recruits, and the whole have to be put through a course of musketry before we can safely dispense with the detachments of native infantry now serving at our coast towns.

The Vice-Consul at Berbera has not sufficient time to attend to these duties in addition to his own work, which is already sufficiently onerous.

I have therefore ventured to telegraph to-day and ask if the services of Captain E. J. E. Swayne, now employed in Uganda, can be spared for this purpose. Captain Swayne has qualifications which should make him a very useful officer in the Protectorate, and he both knows and likes the country and the people. After the drill season is over I could always find employment for him in survey work, and it would be useful to have an officer who could take the place of any of the Consular staff proceeding on leave.

I would propose that Captain Swayne be employed in the Protectorate on his present salary, which I understand to be 600*l.* a-year, for two years, to be prolonged for a further term if necessary.

Should this suggestion meet with your Lordship's approval, and Captain Swayne can be spared and be willing to come, which I have reason to believe he would, I would request that he may be required to join at Berbera as soon after the commencement of October next as may be practicable.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

No. 69.

Sir R. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 28.)

(No. 154. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Cairo, August 17, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith copy of the Intelligence Report drawn up at Omdurman for the period the 1st May to the 15th July last.

Your Lordship will observe in Appendix "A" translation of a letter from Dejasmatch Tsamma to the Commandant at Nasser, asking for explanations as to why he had established a post at Nasser, and asserting the claim of Abyssinia to a boundary extending to the White Nile.

This letter was written, as it appears, before the date on which Mr. Harrington's negotiations with King Menelek, which resulted in his abandonment of any claim to extend to the Nile, had been brought to a conclusion, and it is very probable that Colonel Maxwell is right in considering this letter to be an indirect result of the passage of the Marchand Expedition through Tsamma's Province.

I venture, however, to submit, for your Lordship's consideration, whether it may not be well to draw Menelek's attention to a letter written by one of his lieutenants, who claims to speak with authority and treats as a settled question a matter which, at the time, formed the subject of negotiation with the King.

I have, &c.
(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 69.

Colonel Maxwell to War Office.

Sir,

Omdurman, July 24, 1899.

THE intelligence from Nasser concerning the Abyssinians, is probably the indirect result of the Marchand Expedition passing through their territory, and a desire on Degazmatch Tsamma's part to verify our presence on the Sobat River.

Intelligence, which, however, requires confirmation, has been received, that the late Dervish garrison of Bor, under Arabi Dafalla has reached Kalaka in South Darfur, the Khalifa is also stated by some to be *en route* there; if this news be true, it will no doubt have its effect on the situation.

The Khalifa, after a series of harassing marches has succeeded in reaching the vicinity of Jebel Gedir.

All reports verified by the condition of deserters, confirm that the Khalifa has been in sore straits for food, and should the Zehadia tribe desert him, which is said to be probable, the Khalifa's following as an armed force would cease to exist, but it never must be lost sight of that so long as the Khalifa is at large, he is a menace to the security of the Soudan.

It is yet to be hoped that the friendly and loyal Arabs of Kordofan and the Soudanese will be able to bring about the disruption of the Dervish force.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. G. MAXWELL,
Commanding at Omdurman, and Acting Sirdar.

Inclosure 2 in No. 69.

Intelligence Report No. 63.

Summary of Intelligence received at Omdurman from May 1 to July 15, 1899.

Equatoria, Upper Nile, and Fashoda.—There is no news of British forces operating on the Upper Nile.

News was received from Sobat in May that some Dinkas who had been dispatched thence to Bor with a letter for Colonel Martyr's column had been turned back by hostile Nuers on the Sobat-Bor road.

On the 29th April six Nuers arrived at Nasser bringing a letter from Degaz Tsamma (Appendix A) in which the writer states the Abyssinians claim the country as far as Nat Jebai (White Nile), and asks the reason for the posting of a garrison at Nasser. An answer was returned to the effect that this question would be referred to head-quarters for settlement.

Degaz Tsamma's force was reported to consist of cavalry, artillery, and infantry, numbers unknown, and was then about Gore. It is unlikely that they will attempt to advance further west. Rain will soon render the country impassable.

The Nuers who brought the above message stated that four white men, whom they thought to be French, had been with Degaz Tsamma, but had now returned eastward.

Bimbashi McEwen, Commandant, Nasser, left Nasser on the 7th May in the stern-wheeler "Abu Klea" with a view to ascertaining—

- (1.) How far the Rivers Kir and Baro were navigable;
- (2.) To verify statements made by Nuers, *re* the position of the Abyssinian force;
- (3.) To discover where the French boats had been left.

His report and rough sketch of what appear to be the river system are forwarded (Appendix B).

The stern-wheeler "Abu Klea" was stopped by a cataract on the Baro River on the 11th May. Next morning Bimbashi McEwen was guided by a Nuer to where the French boats lay on an island in the river close to the village of Gambela. He found the steamer "Faidherbe" damaged, but capable of repair, and three iron boats in her. Two of the latter were brought down to the "Abu Klea" and thence forwarded to Omdurman.

Bimbashi McEwen left again for Nasser on the 17th May without hearing news of the Abyssinians.

Gore was reported to be two and a-half to three days' journey east of Gambela.

The Sobat began to rise at the beginning of April, but fell again from the 16th to the 29th. On the 30th April it began to rise rapidly. The river has in all fallen 18 feet between the 17th December, and the 30th April.

Everything quiet at Fashoda. The garrisons of regular troops are now being withdrawn, and posts of Soudanese police established at Fashoda, Nasser, and Sobat, during the rainy season. Gun-boat patrols will keep up communication between posts.

The Chief Mek of the Shilluks came to Omdurman during May to visit the Sirdar.

Kordofan.—An Arab patrol of fifteen men under Meisera, son of Zubeir Pasha, which left Omdurman in March and proceeded via Omsidr, Kajmar, Bara, to El Obeid and Kadaro, returned on 22nd May. The Sheikhs of the Zaghawa and Dar Hamid tribes appear to have few fire-arms, and were disinclined to make a combined attack on the Khalifa. Kajmar and Bara were held by posts of friendly Kababish. El Obeid is reported to be uninhabited and in ruins. The Aman was given to several Sheikhs, some of whom, *e.g.*, Sheikh Obeid-el-Hag, and Abdel Samad (now of J. Kadaro, but formerly of El Obeid) and Sheik Daier-el-Khawaga of J. Dilling have come in to pay their respects to Government.

Price of dhurra in Kordofan is reported as from 1 to 1½ Medjidieh dollars (£ T. 16 to £ T. 40) per ardeb.

Khalifa.—The Khalifa left Sherkeila about the 8th May for Belula, with a force estimated by Baggara deserters at about 3,000 men with 1,250 rifles. Nearly the whole of the Taaisha and Habbania Arabs, including all their chief Sheikhs, deserted him on his quitting Sherkeila, and have since surrendered to Government. The number of Dervish deserters, men, women, and children, who have come in since March last is estimated at 6,000 people.

The Khalifa has since made his way gradually south, meeting with some opposition from the Tagalla under Mek Geili Adam on his way, and was reported to be at Kurun *en route* to Jebel Gedir about the 4th July with a force reduced to some 1,500 men and 600 rifles.

Nearly all the blacks are said to have deserted westward, and the Ziadia camel-men who are said to have some 500 rifles, constitute his chief fighting forces. It is rumoured that these will desert on finding that their camels cannot live in the country during the rains which have now begun.

Large numbers of women and children are said to be still with Khalifa.

The Guwama Arabs have given constant trouble by robbing and murdering Dervish deserters, and are now being disarmed. Fadl-el-Mula, and Kabbashi, in charge of Bara Post (of 100 rifles), reports having defeated a force of Dervishes who advanced against him from Sherkeila in May, but there is reason to believe that this party consisted of Baggara, who intended to surrender, being under the impression that the post was held by Government troops.

Osman Sheikh-ed-Din is said to be anxious to desert and submit, but is in great fear of his father, who suspects him, and practically keeps him under supervision.

Darfur.—Several letters expressing his loyalty to Government have been received from Ali Dinar, but his real attitude is doubtful. Some messengers who have brought back letters assert that he tore up letters sent to him, but wrote a submissive reply which was brought in by them. He lays the blame of recent disturbances on Ibrahim Ali, and claims his birthright to the Sultanate of Darfur (Appendix "C.")

His force is reported at 2,000 infantry, with some 400 fire-arms.

News was given to Meisera, son of Zubeir Pasha, when on patrol in Kordofan, that Musa-wad-Madebbu, of the Rizighat, had fought Sheikh Binani, of the Mahomed at Abu Sikan.

The latter was defeated and fled to Ali Dinar at El Fasher, who reinforced him. He then marched on Musa Madebbu, who fled to Bahr Gyane. Binani is now at Shakka, and has sent Zubeir Wad-el-Fahl (formerly appointed Emir of El Fasher by Khalifa) to Ali Dinar.

Sennar.—A number of minor Sheikhs from neighbourhood of Roseires have come in to pay their respects to the Commandant there. One of these, Mek Abu Shoke Agali Ibrahim, whose kingdom is conterminous to Fazoghli, stated that for the last ten years he had paid tribute both to the Dervishes and Abyssinians.

Ras Damassi has written a friendly letter to Commandant, Famaka.

From information gathered by Commandant, Roseires, it appears that after leaving Fazoghli and Beni Shangul, Damassi went on a slave-raiding expedition towards Jkorno, in which he took many slaves.

From recent reconnaissances it seems that there is no road existing between Roseires and Gallabat, except via Gedaref, or through Abyssinian territory.

There is a road from J. Gule in Darfong to the Upper Beni Shangul country. The garrisons on the Blue Nile have been reduced for the rainy season.

Kassala.—It is reported that Ras Mangasha of Shoa has sent a force against Kidana Miriam at Gora, and that Kidana has turned towards Gabta, near the Setit River, with 100 rifles.

Telegraph.—The telegraph line has been laid as far as village of Sero opposite Karkoj, but no office is as yet established south of Sennar.

Railway.—On the 15th July 95 miles of line had been laid from Atbara Fort, and 122 miles of bank completed. The second span on the north side of the Atbara bridge was finished on the 20th July.

For Director of Military Intelligence,
(Signed) J. H. FITTON, *Kaimakam*.

Inclosure 3 in No 69.

Degazmatch Tsamma to the English Governor at Nasser and Sobat.

19 Makabit (May 4, 1899).

AFTER presenting my salaams I hope you are well, as I am thanks to God. Well, I heard that you came to Nasser and Sobat, therefore, I inform you that my Government has sent me to Khor Bajoba, where I now am. The boundaries of Abyssinia are up to the Nile at Nat Jabai, where the Abyssinian flag has been hoisted by me six months ago, after much fatigue and loss of 345 men, after which I returned to Gore, my head-quarters.

You have come now to Nasser and Sobat, while there is nothing between us and your Government, except good wishes, therefore I have to inform you that our boundaries are at Nat Jabai, and you have no right to come beyond it, and all Governments know this.

You have occupied this place, and places beyond it, and do you mean by this occupation peace or war, or to visit the places, as I do not know the reason which made you come to visit this place. If you mean to visit the place only I have no objection to it, nor to your going further than it, as both Governments are on good relations, but if you mean to occupy it please inform me and communicate with my Government your real intention.

Inclosure 4 in No. 69.

Sultan Ali Dinar to Lord Kitchener.

9th El Heja (April 19, 1899).

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge receipt of your kind letter dated the 26th November, 1898, which I received to-day (19th April, 1899), and which increased our happiness. What you have heard about the discussion which took place between me and Ibrahim Ali on the question as to who is the Chief at Darfur, is quite different from the real facts of the case. After I started from Omdurman, on reaching El Fasher, I heard a man by name Ibrahim was at Dar Hamar stopping the road, and that he was sent by the Government. I wrote several letters to the Government, and also wrote to Ibrahim, who burnt my letters to you, and did many other irregular things which made me believe he was not sent by Government, as he used to kill the men, especially mine, and do things which reminded the inhabitants of the Dervish acts. He also used to burn your letters to me. I warned him against it, but it only increased his malpractices. I then sent my Wakil, Kiran Zeraika, to meet him, and see what Government orders he had, and, instead of explaining his position, he opened fire at him, killing many of Kiran's men, who were then compelled to defend themselves. Ibrahim Ali then escaped. I have already reported this to you, and asked your Excellency to acknowledge me as Chief of my country, which could not be done without the consent of the Government.

(Signed) Sultan ALI DINAR.

Inclosure 5 in No. 69.

Sultan Ali Dinar to Lord Kitchener.

9th El Heja (April 19, 1899).

IBRAHIM ALI is one of our slaves, and he falsely told the Government that he is of the Sultan's descendants.

When I came to Darfur, I found it in a disturbed state, I quieted the inhabitants, and encouraged them to attend to their cultivation, and wrote to you on the subject; but Ibrahim Ali intercepted the messengers, until I received your kind order, when every one anticipated prosperity. It is well known that the boundaries of Darfur are well known, and its relations with the Government, and as long as we are considered by your Excellency, you will find us most thankful and grateful.

We beg to ask for your kind answer, and hope to meet you in our country.
(Signed) Sultan ALI DINAR.

Inclosure 6 in No. 69.

Sultan Ali Dinar to Lord Kitchener.

22nd. El Heja (May 2, 1899).

AFTER greeting the Government for crushing the rebels and establishing justice in the Soudan, begs his Excellency to consider him as one of his staff, and not to listen to intriguers, but to have complete confidence in his loyalty.
(Not sealed.)

Inclosure 7 in No. 69.

Notes on the Rise of the Upper Nile (Fashoda) and Sobat River.

Fashoda.—Began to fall about the middle of January, and fell steadily at the rate of 1 inch to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch a-day throughout February, March, and April.

No rise was recorded at Fashoda until the 4th May, from which date until the 31st May the river had risen $26\frac{1}{2}$ inches and was continuing to rise steadily at an average rate of 1 inch per diem.

It is noticed that the water during the rise is of a reddish brown colour, and this seems to point to the fact that the rise is caused by the Sobat River, which is of the same colour, and which at its junction with the Nile, forces back the clear white water of the White Nile. The difference in colour of the latter above and below the junction is very noticeable. Further as far as I can judge, the Sobat rise during May was principally due to water from the Pibor River and not from the Kir.

The green water flood referred to in the Soudan Almanac has not been observed at Fashoda.

The total fall of Nile at Fashoda up to the 4th May was about 12 inches.

The new iron nilometer was used at beginning of June, and during that month the total rise was $52\frac{1}{2}$ centim.

Sobat Fort.—The records of the rise and fall of the river have not been kept with reliable accuracy at Sobat Fort, but it appears that the real rise of the Sobat commenced on the 4th May, and that between that date and end of May it had risen about 4 feet.

The White Nile above Sobat Junction is stated by the Egyptian officer in command at Sobat not to have commenced to rise until end of May.

(Signed) H. G. MAJENDIE, Bimbashi,
Commanding Fashoda District.

June 12, 1899.

Nasser.—From the 18th to the end of December 1898 the River Sobat fell at Nasser $22\frac{1}{2}$ inches. During January the fall of the river was 8 ft. 1 in. During February the fall was $58\frac{1}{2}$ inches. There were four days during March on which the river rose slightly.

False Rise.—During April the total fall was $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches; up to the 4th April the river fell steadily, on the 5th it commenced rising and continued to do so until the 13th, during which time it rose $15\frac{1}{2}$ inches. On the 14th it commenced to fall, and continued to do so until the 29th during which time the river fell 28 inches. On the 30th April the river commenced rising rapidly.

The above-mentioned rise was evidently a false one.

Real Rise.—The river continued to rise till the 14th May, during which time it rose $62\frac{1}{2}$ inches. From the 15th to 19th it fell $11\frac{1}{2}$ inches. On the 20th May it started rising again and continued doing so till the 1st June, when it remained stationary.

The total rise of the river during May was 6 ft. 9 in.

It rose 14 inches during first five days of June.

Bahr el Zeraf.—Up to third week in March 1899 had fallen less than 3 feet, but appeared to be going down at the rate of $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches per diem.

Rise not recorded with any reliability, though it appears not to have risen appreciably until the end of May 1899.

Bahr el Ghazal.—Lake not navigable for steamers, &c., drawing up to 4 feet first week in April, but with difficulty, it as well as river is falling slowly $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches per diem on this date. (March 1899.)

(Signed)

C. M. G. MACEWEN, *Bimbashi*.

June 1, 1899.

No. 70.

Sir R. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 28.)

(No. 155. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Cairo, August 19, 1899.

ON the return of Lord Kitchener to Egypt, I lost no time in consulting him on the questions which formed the subjects of my despatches No. 149 of the 10th and No. 150 of the 11th instant, and am now able to transmit to your Lordship herewith copies of two letters, which he has addressed to me on the considerations respecting the Soudan frontier which I have the honour to submit to your Lordship.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

RENNELL RODD.

Inclosure 1 in No. 70.

Lord Kitchener to Sir R. Rodd.

(No. 6.)

Sir,

Cairo, August 17, 1899.

WITH reference to your despatch No. 149 to the Foreign Office, I would point out, while fully concurring in your views about possible future concessions along the frontier, that districts which appear now to be almost uninhabited, such as Kedawi, are liable to be claimed by those who return from places of safety in which they have taken refuge during the Dervish oppression.

I think, therefore, that until a Delimitation Commission has been formed and is at work on the ground, the line agreed on by Mr. Harrington, from Todluc and Gallabat, had better be maintained.

At the same time, I consider your suggestion regarding Metemmeh or Gallabat as a practical solution, and one which will please the King. I should like, however, to make a few local inquiries before absolutely agreeing to the details of your proposal.

Should King Menelek facilitate the delimitation of the boundaries further south in the neighbourhood of Nasser, I think this concession at Gallabat might fairly and rightly be conceded to him.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

KITCHENER OF KHARTOUM.

Inclosure 2 in No. 70.

Lord Kitchener to Sir R. Rodd.

(No. 7.)

Sir,

Cairo, August 17, 1899.

WITH reference to your despatch No. 150 to the Foreign Office, I beg to state that I entirely concur with the views you have expressed as to the necessity of determining as soon as possible the frontier between Erythræa and the Soudan in the manner recommended by you.

The distance of Keren, the nearest post now held by the Italians, renders their administration of territories on the Setit and Atbara almost impossible.

It seems to me evident that the line from Sabderat to Todluc, leaving the plain watered by the Gash immediately to the south-east of Kassala within our boundary, would be, for administrative purposes, the natural and proper frontier between the two States.

With reference to the complaint of the Italian authorities that an Italian subject had been turned back by my order, I beg to inform you that last April, I met this Italian subject, M. Mazé, on the west bank of the Atbara, south of Tomat.

He had been shooting and trapping game, and I warned him that such proceedings without permits could not be allowed, and that he should return to Italian territory. He apparently had no papers, and was having some difficulty with the natives whom he had not paid for services rendered; I requested Colonel Collinson to regulate the local complaint against M. Mazé.

I have, &c.

(Signed) KITCHENER OF KHARTOUM.

No. 71.

Sir R. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 29.)

(No. 165.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, August 29, 1899.

IN continuation of my immediately preceding telegram, I have the honour to inform your Lordship that some degree of disaffection is stated to exist amongst the Kenana Arabs in Senaar. Lord Kitchener is adopting precautionary measures in view of a possible movement on their part.

No. 72.

Mr. Harrington to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 31.)

(No. 60. Confidential.)

My Lord,

London, August 31, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to submit, for your Lordship's perusal and consideration, a Memorandum on the subject of the Somali Coast Railway question.

It is to be hoped that Her Majesty's Government may see their way to take some action in the matter, as the present seems a more favourable opportunity than is likely to occur again for moving in the matter.

Moreover, the power that possesses railway communication with Harrar will, undeniably, hold the key to the situation in Abyssinia.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. L. HARRINGTON.

P.S.—A copy of this despatch has been sent to Cairo.

J. L. H.

No. 70*.

Sir R. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 29.)

(No. 164.)

(Telegraphic.) *En clair.*

Alexandria, August 29, 1899.

SIRDAR reports attempted Mahdist insurrection on Blue Nile, instigated by Kalifa Mohamed Cherif, and two sons of Mahdi allowed to live under supervision at village of Shukaba. In consequence of news received of communications with Menai Degheim Arabs, Captain Soyth, on 27th, determined to arrest Cherif, and surrounded Shukaba with troops. They were met with warm fire, and charged by Dervishes. Mohamed Cherif and Mahdi's two sons were shot, village burned, and fifty-five prisoners taken. Troops behaved admirably, one officer and two men being wounded.

Inclosure in No. 72.

Memorandum on Somali Coast Railway question.

THOUGH fully aware of the views which are entertained by Her Majesty's Government with respect to the schemes which have from time to time been put forward with a view to transferring if possible the proposed railway communication between the French Somali Coast and Harrar to a port in the British Protectorate, I feel it to be my duty, having recently returned from Addis Abbaba, to place before Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, such information as has come to my knowledge since I was last in England, together with one or two points for consideration which may have hitherto escaped notice. I trust in so doing, that my anxiety to place before Her Majesty's Government all the consequences which it appears to me must follow from the creating of a practical monopoly of trade routes outside the British Protectorate, may be my excuse for returning to a subject the full gravity of which has, perhaps, not been completely realized.

The question of railway communication between the Somali Coast and Harrar is not to be regarded from a purely local point of view, but from an Imperial one. The Jibouti-Harrar Railway, once completed, will affect, both politically and commercially, Aden, the Somali Coast, the Soudan, and pecuniarily, the Imperial and Indian Exchequers. It will affect Aden, because it is no secret that the French hope to diminish Aden's position as the trade centre of the Red Sea and as a coaling station for the mercantile marine of all nations trading to the East. The French are purchasing small steamers for coasting purposes in the hopes of diverting the trade which now passes through Aden from Hodeida and other Red Sea coast towns to Jibouti, being well aware that the mercantile houses which now have their head-quarters in Aden will be forced to transfer them to Jibouti should the French succeed in capturing the Red Sea and the Abyssinian trade.

The Somali Coast will be affected, because it is self-evident that the Jibouti-Harrar Railway will deflect Zeyla's trade with Harrar and Southern Abyssinia to Jibouti.

The trade of Zeyla in 1898, was over 411,000*l.* in value; of this 95 per cent. was with Harrar. The revenue at Zeyla is derived from an import and export duty on the trade.

Moreover, Harrar, once a railway terminus, must perforce attract the trade of the Somali Coast Hinterland, which now finds its way to Berbera and Bulhar.

The loss in revenue to the Somali Coast, once the Jibouti Railway is completed, may be computed at 10,000*l.* a-year, though 12,000*l.* a-year would probably be nearer the mark. A diminution of revenue to the extent of 10,000*l.* a-year means bankruptcy to the Somali Coast Protectorate, which at the present moment can only show a dubious surplus, according to the Budget Estimates, of 2,000*l.* a-year over the expenditure necessary to carry on the administration on its present lines.

As regards the Soudan, the effect of the railway, though remote, is, I think, clear. The railway once made, Harrar is at the mercy of the French, whenever they wish to seize it, unless we are determined to make her breach of the Anglo-French Agreement of 1887 a *casus belli*, which, should we have other matters elsewhere to attend to, we may be unable to do. Once in possession of Harrar, the Arussi country (which lies between Harrar and the Hawash River) which, from personal knowledge and all accounts, is fertile and capable of development, must come under French influence.

Even were France not to seize Harrar, the mere fact that a railway would place her in a position to threaten with effect to throw troops into that place, would be sufficient to make French influence almost paramount, or at any rate extremely effectual, in Abyssinia, owing to the pecuniary value of Harrar Province to Abyssinia. This latter effect would, in my opinion, be dangerous, as the French might then use their influence to divert trade from the Soudan frontier and to reproduce the unsatisfactory state of frontier affairs existing previous to the Dervish régime.

It must be remembered that the Abyssinians are very fair material from which to raise native troops, and from my little experience of them, more amenable to European control, if well and justly treated, than we at first thought.

Moreover, it may be remarked, that during my recent halt in Harrar, I was considerably surprised at the activity of the French in their attempts to create interests in Harrar. This, in my opinion, is with a view to profit by the internal disturbance which will in all probability arise in the country on Menelek's death. The effect on the Imperial Exchequer, once the railway is completed, will be that at least 10,000*l.* a-year will have to be made as a grant-in-aid towards the cost of the administration of the Somali Coast Protectorate. Failing a grant-in-aid from the Imperial Exchequer, the only alternative

will be to abandon the Protectorate, for it will be impossible to effect economies in the administration. This latter could scarcely be more economically carried on than at present, and I entirely fail to see where the Administration is to find any new source of revenue to counterbalance a loss of 10,000*l.* per annum.

The Indian Exchequer, should Aden lose its present position as the trade centre of the Red Sea and as a coaling station, would have to make an increased contribution towards local expenditure, which is now met by local funds derived from the existing trade.

I am unaware whether the Imperial Government shares with the Indian the cost of Aden, but, if so, the former would also be liable for increased expenditure in the shape of its share of the increased contribution necessitated by Aden's decline as a trade centre and coaling station.

To avoid the danger with which the completion of the Jibouti Railway threatens Imperial interests, three courses seem open, but unfortunately none of them are sufficiently inviting, commercially, to obviate the necessity of a Government guarantee, were it decided to adopt one of them.

The three courses are:—

1. Inform Menelek that we intend making a railway from Berbera to the point on our frontier nearest to Harrar, and ask him for a Concession to make a line from Harrar to our frontier terminus. This matter could, in my opinion, be arranged without any infringement of the French Concession.

2. Make a railway to the point on our frontier nearest to Harrar, and wait a favourable opportunity for its further extension.

3. Buy up the rights of the French Company and transfer the line to Berbera.

As regards plan No. 1 there is a possibility that the required Concession may be obtained by playing on Menelek's fears of French designs on Harrar, of which place we could guarantee him possession, and on his cupidity by showing him how he could collect his customs at the frontier and thus diminish his pecuniary liability for the guarantee he has given on the French Company's line from the Harrar customs.

Personally this plan of action does not meet with my approval, because there is always the possibility of failure to obtain the Concession to make the line in Abyssinian territory, and the plan in question will touch Mr. Ilg's* pocket. It is to his pecuniary interest that any railway communication with the coast should be made by a Company which has purchased his rights under the French Concession. Ilg, in his own interest, will be bound to oppose any attempt of ours to obtain a Concession; and our action will make him our enemy. This is undesirable, as his influence with Menelek is considerable, and at present he is apparently inclined to use this influence on our behalf.

As regards plan No. 2, there is no necessity for any dealings with Menelek. The probability is that the bulk of the trade would remain in our hands, should the French Company now making the railway fail to find the money for the continuation of the Jibouti line from El-Bah to Harrar. It is also probable that this plan would wreck the French Company's attempts to find money for the continuation of the line.

Plans 1 and 2, however, entail the disadvantage of having to compete with the French line.

Plan 3 is the one I favour. If Ilg's statements to me are correct, he is in favour of such a plan, so likewise is Cheffneux (his co-concessionnaire), both of them being desirous to realize their interests in the Concession.

There is no reason to anticipate any difficulty in obtaining Menelek's consent to the transfer of the line to British territory, in return for a modification of the original Concession which he now recognizes as a mistake. This plan would not only cause Ilg to support our interests in Abyssinia, but, what is more important, would deal a mortal blow to French influence in Abyssinia and to Jibouti's attempt to control Abyssinian and Red Sea trade.

To regard the question from a pecuniary point of view, it is certain that the commercial possibilities of the line are greater than at first apparent, and that Her Majesty's Government, should they decide to give pecuniary support to this suggested plan, will never be called on, except perhaps during construction (and even this might be obviated by arranging that interest during construction of the line should be charged to capital account) to pay more than half the guaranteed interest on the capital necessary to carry out the scheme.

Taking Mr Lane's estimate of 1,000,000*l.*, which in my opinion seems unnecessarily high for the class of line which would meet our requirements (the probability is that

* Mr. Ilg is a Swiss, who is practically Menelek's Minister and Chief Adviser in European and financial affairs.

750,000*l.* would be sufficient). The money could, so I understand from financiers in the city, be raised at $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent., provided a Government guarantee is given. This estimate of 1,000,000*l.* therefore necessitates a yearly guarantee of 25,000*l.* From the following notes it will be apparent that Government's liability under a guarantee will neither amount to 25,000*l.* nor be a large sum, considering the interests at stake, to pay for a transfer of the railway to the British Protectorate.

Take the trade of Harrar. French authorities estimate its value, according to figures said to have been obtained from the Harrar Customs, at :—

								Francs.
Imports	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12,597,008
Exports	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6,000,000
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18,597,008
Or, roughly, 740,000 <i>l.</i> per annum (<i>vide</i> "Moniteur Officiel du Commerce," No. 815, February 9, 1899).								

I prefer not to accept this estimate, but to take my own which is based on a five years' knowledge of the local trade, viz., 450,000*l.*, an estimate which is well within the actual figures and does not include the very considerable trade in arms and ammunition.

The bulk of the trade represented by these figures could easily pay 5 per cent. of its value for transport, and the remainder $7\frac{1}{2}$ to 10 per cent. However, taking the low rate of 5 per cent. as cost of transport, the traffic Returns per annum would yield 22,500*l.*

To this we may safely add 2,500*l.* per annum, as representing the receipts that can be expected from passenger and live-stock traffic, together with the increased trade in salt, grain, and other goods and products which now fail to enter into trade Returns owing to the present prohibitive cost of transport.

With regard to passenger traffic, there is a large pilgrim traffic from Harrar and the Galla country to Mecca, via the coast and Aden.

With regard to live-stock traffic, I have seen the argument used that the Somali would not use the railway for his live stock. I may remark, however, that the Somali is business man enough to appreciate the difference in value made in his animals' condition by a railway journey of twelve hours as against, *e.g.*, an eight days' march from Hargeisa. He has recognized the value of quick transport in the case of live-stock traffic between the coast and Aden, preferring to pay 100 to 200 per cent. more for transport of live stock by steamer than he does for the same by native craft.

The above figures, which take very little account of future development of trade consequent on the establishment of railway communication between Harrar and the coast, leave us face to face with a traffic Return of 25,000*l.* per annum. At first sight, 5 per cent. on the value of the trade may appear an excessively high charge, but an example will show that it is more than 50 per cent. below present charges for the transport of many articles of trade.

Example : Last year's trade in "grey shirtings" cotton goods was of the value of over 1,400,000 rupees. Two and a-half bales are a load (two camels). The load costs, delivered at Harrar, 27 rupees in transport charges—rather more than 10 per cent. on the value of the load, which is 250 rupees. Another estimate of probable traffic Returns can be based on the volume of trade. In 1896 I ascertained that the dead weight of trade between the Somali Coast and Harrar, &c., excluding Berbera trade, which is small, amounted to over 4,500 tons.

The average rate paid for transport is slightly over 6*l.* per ton. Accepting that a railway charges an average rate of 5*l.* per ton, traffic receipts would amount to 22,500*l.* per annum. This estimate does not take into account any Return from passenger, live-stock, and military materials traffic, nor the possibility of any development of trade consequent on the availability of railway transport. Neither does it include the trade in grain likely to result on the opening of the railway. A considerable trade would take place in this product, as Abyssinia would in course of time be in a position to supply all the Red Sea coast with grain. These items would certainly return at least 2,500*l.* per annum in traffic receipts, making the total yearly receipts 25,000*l.* Thus, whether estimated on value or volume of the trade, a railway to Harrar under existing circumstances will give traffic receipts of at least 25,000*l.* per annum.

From inquiries made it appears that 50 per cent. of the above traffic receipts, or 12,500*l.* a-year, ought to amply suffice for working expenses of the line. This would leave 12,500*l.* a-year available towards paying interest on capital. The effect of this is that Her Majesty's Government would have to find 12,500*l.* a-year to complete the guaranteed interest on a capital of 1,000,000*l.* (Could the scheme be carried out for 750,000*l.*, only 6,250*l.* would be required.)

There is a point which apparently escaped Consul-General Sadler's notice when he was asked whether the Protectorate could, from its own revenue, assist in the construction of a railway. It is that the import tax at Zeyla on the trade goods destined for Abyssinia averages about 2 per cent., whereas at Berbera 5 per cent. is exacted. It must be borne in mind that Berbera being a railway terminus, would draw away all the trade from Zeyla and Jibuti.

This difference owes its existence to the competition of the free port of Jibuti, whereas at Berbera there would be no necessity with a railway to alter existing arrangements.

This extra 3 per cent. on import trade, which a railway would divert from Zeyla and Jibuti, would produce about 4,000*l.* a-year. This applied towards guaranteeing the railway, would leave Her Majesty's Government to find 8,500*l.* a-year (or 2,250*l.*, were 750,000*l.* sufficient capital for the scheme).

From the above, it is apparent that the question for decision by Her Majesty's Government is whether it is better to pay 8,500*l.*, have railway communication between Harrar and the British coast, smash Jibuti, which has always been a thorn in our sides, irretrievably ruin French influence in Abyssinia, and make British influence paramount, or to have to pay, once the French railway is made, 10,000*l.* a-year towards the Somali Coast Administration, to say nothing of allowing the French to monopolize the trade of Harrar and the South Abyssinian country, and to obtain almost paramount influence in Abyssinia.

8,500*l.* a-year appears a very small price to pay for the advantages a Berbera-Harrar railway would give us both politically and commercially.

It must also be borne in mind that, judging from the usually successful results that have attended the construction of railways in Africa, there is a strong probability that Her Majesty's Government will never have to pay money under their guarantee.

In conclusion, the future of the Somali Coast and other much more important questions having an Imperial interest are bound up with the question of a railway, which cannot be made through British territory without a guarantee.

To me, the question is one of rendering British influence paramount in Abyssinia or not. The chances of our making our influence paramount are at the present moment most favourable.

If Her Majesty's Government do not see their way to give their support to the scheme put forward, I cannot help expressing my opinion that a time may come when we shall find ourselves obliged to come to an understanding with France at a heavy loss, on pain of finding them with the railway made to Harrar, the predominant Power at, if not the actual possessors of, that place.

(Signed) J. L. HARRINGTON.

No. 73.

Sir R. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 31.)

(No. 167.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, August 31, 1899.

WITH reference to my telegram No. 164 of the 29th instant, I have received a telegram from the Sirdar to the following effect:—

"It appears to me absolutely necessary to carry out a severe sentence with regard to the fifty-five prisoners captured in the village that opened fire on the Government troops, as I consider that such insubordination in this country should be promptly and severely dealt with. See my instructions to Mudirs. I have, I fear, up to the present, dealt too leniently with Dervish prisoners, and they have taken this leniency for weakness. I can get no information from these prisoners, who seem a very fanatical lot. It is impossible to suppose that they could have been living in the village where armed preparations had been made and a 'jihad' had been preached without knowing all about it and being parties to the rising against the Government, and I think they were certainly implicated in the revolt, and as such they are liable to the sentence of death. It is, I fear, impossible to discriminate between their degrees of guilt. Do you consider the penalty of death too severe?"

To this telegram I have sent the following reply:—

"Your telegram No. 4 of yesterday's date.

"The effect a wholesale execution might have on public opinion in England must not be lost sight of; and my only course is to refer the matter home and request that

an urgent reply may be sent. Personally, I should be for sentencing all combatants to death, commuting the sentence of a certain number, and passing lighter sentences on any non-combatants there may be amongst them."

As any sentence carried out should be prompt, I venture to beg your Lordship for an early reply.

No. 74.

Sir R. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received August 31.)

(No. 168.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, August 31, 1899.

MY telegram No. 167 of to-day's date.

I have received a telegram from the Sirdar reporting that meetings with a view to rising have been held by the Kenana Arabs on the Blue Nile. The garrison at Senaar has been reinforced. Movement will probably be checked by action of 27th.

Arrests are being made in Khartoum of individuals compromised by letters found in Sherif's house. The necessity for prompt decision as regards the prisoners is evidenced by these facts.

No. 75.

Foreign Office to Consul-General Sadler.

(No. 83.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, August 31, 1899.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 61 of the 5th instant, reporting the progress made in the scheme for the reconstruction of the Police forces of the Somali Coast Protectorate.

Lord Salisbury approves your action in this matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

No. 76.

Sir R. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 1.)

(No. 169.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, September 1, 1899.

I HAVE received a telegram from Lord Kitchener stating that secret meetings and parades of armed men are being held by the Kenana Arabs who occupy the country south-west of Senaar. The garrison at the latter place, as well as those of Karkoj and Roseires, are being further reinforced.

No. 77.

Intelligence Division to Foreign Office.—(Received September 2.)

THE Director of Military Intelligence presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and begs to inclose a Memorandum embodying the more recent news received of Rabeh Zubeir, and bringing up to date the Memorandum furnished on the 19th December last. Foreign Office print, Egypt, Confidential, the 21st December, Section 17.

A copy of the inclosed Memorandum has been sent to the Colonial Office.

18, Queen Anne's Gate, London,

September 2, 1899.

Inclosure in No. 77.

Précis of News received about Rabeh Zubehr subsequent to the date of the Memorandum, dated December 19, 1898, furnished to the Foreign Office. (Egypt, Confidential, December 21, Section 17.)

1. Sir G. Goldie, writing to the Director of Military Intelligence, on the 5th January last, gave the intelligence received from Nigeria, that Rabeh had suffered reverses in Mandara, and was making stores at Gujiba, and that his prestige was declining.

2. Colonel Willcocks, writing to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, on the 11th January, stated that Rabeh had collected large numbers of transport animals at Dikwa with a view, it was believed, to bolting in case the white man advanced against him. Some three months previously he had sent 450 men, mostly armed with Egyptian rifles, double-barrelled guns, and flint locks to Gaberu (Ujemabani) north-west of Kasu Kula, where the expedition halted on hearing of the presence of white men near Gombe. Rabeh himself was stated to be very ill and unable to move about much without help.

Had it not been for the reported presence of white men, Rabeh would probably have disposed of the Malam Jibrella, an old friend but present enemy, who, having killed King Abu Gombe, some five years ago, had acquired a large portion of that kingdom, and between whom and Rabeh a feud exists owing to Rabeh's son, Fadlalla, having killed a number of Jibrella's men in his flight with Hayatu.

Note by Director of Military Intelligence.—Another version of this quarrel is that the Malam Jibrella (or Jeberila) had killed Fadlalla (a) Sir G. Goldie to Director of Military Intelligence, the 21st March last; (b) Alvarez Africa, No. 5, the 19th July last.

3. Sir G. Goldie reported to the Intelligence Division on the 21st March last, that he had received news from Nigeria to the effect that Rabeh had moved his head-quarters to Karaguaro in the British sphere.

The Malam Jibrella had entered into negotiations with Bautshi out of fear of Rabeh. As Bautshi is one of the principal provinces of Sokoto, this action should tend to prevent Rabeh assuming an aggressive attitude to that Empire.

4. Mr. Jago reported on the 11th March that letters had been received from the caravan which left Tripoli some two years previously, to the effect that they had been well treated by Rabeh, who was desirous of reopening trade with the north.

5. Sir G. Goldie wrote on the 17th April last, that Rabeh was reported to be moving west to Zinder and Damergu.

6. A report compiled from native sources was received from Lieutenant Macnaghten giving various particulars regarding Rabeh.

Rabeh's force is now about—

5,000 Basingahs, *i.e.*, foot soldiers with guns (Shillooks, Dinkas, &c.).

500 Nyam Nyam cannibals, enlisted by Rabeh some years ago, on his way from the Eastern Soudan to the Congo.

10,000 Bornuese horsemen.

Rabeh is short of powder, but gets a little smuggled to him via Lagos and the Niger at Egga; he is also reported to manufacture a certain amount himself. He has not got many breech-loaders, twenty taken from the Belgians on the Congo (previous to his defeat by Baron Dhanis) for which the ammunition is finished; twelve Sniders; twenty small shoulder canon or blunderbusses; six guns captured from Kuka—not mounted on carriages, and therefore immobile.

(N.B.—This information comes from a low class Tripoli Arab, and should be carefully checked by other reports.)

Rabeh is now advanced in years, and one report has it that his sole desire is to be left in peace for the remainder of his life; on the other hand, it is commonly reported that his influence is gradually spreading westwards, and he has sworn before he dies to destroy Kano, accounting for the Mallam Gibrella *en route*.

The Mallam Gibrella or Birmi has his head-quarters at Birmi, two or three days' march to the east of Gombe and situated on the Gongola River; he ravages the country in the neighbourhood of Gombe and Bautchi, his force varying according

Mr. Jago to
Foreign Office,
No. 4, Africa,
March 11, 1899.

Sir G. Goldie to
Director of Military
Intelligence
April 17, 1899.
Lieutenant E. B.
Macnaghten,
May 12, 1899.

to his success in war. Last autumn his force was reported to be about 200 foot soldiers and 500 horsemen. The Mallam Gibrella incurred the enmity of Rabeh for intriguing with Haiata—a son of the Sultan of Sokoto—when living as a hostage with Rabeh's army.

Rabeh is friendly with Maiduguri,* Udio,* Mabaki,* Gebbe, Otika,† Messaw, Gujiba, but hostile to Zinder, Marigari, Mandara, Marghi, Logon, Baghirmi.

7. Sir G. Goldie wrote on the 2nd June last, that Rabeh was reported to have returned to Dikwa from Karaguaro and to be operating against Kerikeri and Messaw (on the borders of Sokoto but in Old Bornu).

Sir G. Goldie to
Director of Military
Intelligence,
June 2, 1899.

8. Mr. Jago reported on the 22nd July that Rabah was sending a Mission to Murzuk to try and reopen Tripoli trade.

Mr. Jago, No. 12,
Africa, July 22,
1899.

9. Sir G. Goldie reported on the 26th July last, that Rabeh was understood to be still at Dikwa, and to have had communications with a French expedition which had arrived at Dikwa.

Sir G. Goldie to
Foreign Office,
July 26, 1899.

10. It is difficult to estimate at present what the result will be as affecting Rabeh, of the recent action of Voulet and Chanoine, as reported in the French papers. It would seem, assuming the news to be true, to be almost certain that these two officers, realizing that they had committed themselves beyond hope of redemption, would endeavour to "stand in with" Rabeh. In fact, it is difficult to see what else they can do. The latter, hungering after their ammunition and rifles, might not be disinclined to treat with them, but having got all he can, will not improbably make them feel that they have not bettered their position.

(Signed) G. FORESTIER WALKER, D.A.A.G.

August 31, 1899.

No. 78.

Sir R. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 3.)

(No. 170.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, September 3, 1899.

THE Sirdar telegraphs from Omdurman to-day that he has issued a Proclamation to the Kenana Arabs, and that the effect has been good. He reports that the principal Sheikh of the tribe has come in to Senaar and offered his submission, and that his example is being followed by others, and he has consequently reason to believe that the excitement now prevailing in the country will subside.

No. 78*.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 3.)

[Via Aden.]

(Telegraphic.) P.

Jiruto, August 31, 1899.

THE Mollah has suddenly arrived at Burao with a force of 1,500 men, and has declared himself Mahdi.

He intends to advance on Hargeisa, and possibly Berbera, and with that object is collecting the eastern tribes.

The movement is directed against us, and the position is serious, for, though the western tribes are loyal, they cannot be depended upon to check the advance unaided.

The employment of troops is, in my opinion, absolutely necessary: 100 mounted and 300 foot, with the co-operation of friendlies, should be sufficient to suppress the rising, and I would request the services of such a force.

The Mollah must be dislodged from Burao if he remains there, and a post must be established. The country to the west of Burao is known, and the water supply sufficient. If he moves in that direction, he must be driven back.

It is desirable that Berbera should be watched by a man-of-war. I am returning there at once.

(Above sent to Sir R. Rodd.)

* Cannot be identified on map.

† Remaining places shown on French Staff Map, south and west of Lake Chad.

No. 79.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 4.)

(No. 64.)

My Lord,

Hargaisa, August 8, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to submit copy of a letter I have addressed to the Governor of Harrar on the subject of raids by the Rer Ali and Rer Haroun Ogaden on our tribes across the frontier.

Since Ras Makunan has left Harrar these raids have become more frequent. And now three cases of raids are reported in the space of a fortnight.

There has been a state of more or less open warfare between the Habr Yunis and the Aidagalleh on the one side and the Rer Ali and Rer Haroun on the other for years past, occurring mostly when our tribes cross the frontier in their annual migrations in search of water and pasture. Our people are not altogether blameless, but aggression is generally on the side of the Ogaden tribes, and as I have not received any complaints from them, and our tribes only complain when they suffer at the hands of their adversaries, it is not always easy to know what goes on across the border.

In the cases immediately under reference there can be no doubt that they were deliberate raids by the two Ogaden tribes on our people as the latter were decamping with their karias to return to our limits, always a favourable time for attack.

Some eighteen months ago on representations made from Aden steps were taken by the Harrar authorities which kept the Rer Ali and Rer Haroun quiet for a time. These tribes inhabit the country bordering on the Abyssinian frontier near Milmil and should thus be within easy control by the Abyssinians.

Our tribes would be quite ready to make peace for they are the chief sufferers by the present state of affairs, and there are indications that the Rer Ali and Rer Haroun are similarly inclined. I was arranging a meeting with Dejajmach Berato, Ras Makunan's nephew, from whom I had received civil letters but unfortunately he was recalled from Jigjiga to Harrar before these arrangements were completed. I do not know when he will return to Jigjiga; had I been able to meet him I should have broached the subject of a settlement. I have little doubt that could the elders from both sides be got together, a more or less permanent settlement could be effected. I have not, however, deemed it expedient at present to suggest to the Governor of Harrar that the Ogaden elders should meet me, both on account of Abyssinian susceptibilities, and because I am doubtful if I can spare the time to remain here much longer. Moreover, as the Habr Yunis and the Aidagalleh are now moving back to our side of the border, further raids are not likely to occur this year after the time which would be required to arrange a meeting.

If my present letter to the Governor of Harrar is not productive of good results, I think the best course to pursue will be to arrange with the Abyssinian authorities for an officer to be deputed from each side to meet with the elders of the respective tribes, settle up the differences between the parties and get them to swear peace.

It will be observed that I have in this instance kept back the Aidagalleh from reprisals, but this could only be done by my being where I am. Had my camp been in a distant part of the Protectorate at this time the Aidagalleh would certainly have crossed the border in force, and this would have been a direct violation of the Treaty.

It is most difficult to impress on semi-savage people like the Aidagalleh that they are to remain quiet and look for redress to an authority they have never recognized. Their natural inclination, Treaties notwithstanding, is to make reprisals, recapture their animals, and inflict as much loss on their adversaries as time and circumstances will permit.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

Inclosure in No. 79.

Consul-General Sadler to Governor of Harrar.

Your Excellency,

Hargaisa, August 8, 1899.

I HAVE to again draw your attention to the raids committed on the tribes belonging to this Protectorate by the Rer Ali and Rer Haroun Ogaden, and to the urgent need of effective measures being taken to keep these tribes in order.

As the matter now stands our tribes are subjected to repeated attacks by the Rer Ali and Rer Haroun and are therefore not receiving that protection to which they are entitled under the Treaty when crossing the border.

About a fortnight ago the Habr Awal Makahil were looted of nineteen camels by the Rer Ali, when living at peace with them, near Faff on the border. Some time ago this tribe took ten camels from the Rer Ali and these were restored at the instance of the Abyssinian authorities.

Within the last ten days the Aidagalleh were looted of seventy-five camels by the Rer Ali and Rer Haroun near Daror. The Aidagalleh at once began to collect with a view to make an expedition to retaliate. This has been stopped by my orders.

I request that steps be quickly taken to restore the property taken from the Makahil and the Aidagalleh, and that such measures may be adopted as will effectually restrain the Rer Ali and Rer Haroun, and put a stop to this tribal warfare on the border.

I have to add that reports have just been received of an attack by the same two tribes on the Habr Yunis Gamboor, on the borders of the Haud in which the Gamboor lost 133 camels, and one man killed.

I would request early attention to this matter.

When the Rer Ali raided the Makahil they also took fourteen camels from the Ba Goba and six camels from the Rer Sherdone. I request that this property may also be returned.

I trust you continue in the enjoyment of good health.

May you be preserved.

(Signed)

J. HAYES SADLER.

No. 80.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 4.)

(No. 65.)

My Lord,

Hargaisa, August 11, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to submit the General Administration Report of the Somali Coast Protectorate for the year ending the 31st March, 1899.

Area and Boundaries.

No change was made in the area or boundaries of the Protectorate which remained as defined by the Treaty of the 14th May, 1897, with Abyssinia.

Transfer of the Protectorate.

On the 1st October the control of the Protectorate, which had rested with the Government of India since its formation in 1884, was taken over by Her Majesty's Government.

The transfer was followed by several changes in the Administration. Lieutenant-Colonel Hayes Sadler, the former Political Agent and Consul, was appointed to administer the Protectorate under the title of Consul-General. Captain Harrington was appointed Consul at Zeyla, continuing to remain at Addis-Ababa as Her Majesty's Agent with King Menelek. Lieutenant Harold was appointed Vice-Consul at Berbera,

continuing to act at Zeyla during Captain Harrington's absence, his place at Berbera being temporarily filled by Lieutenant Cordeaux, who has been in charge of the district since July last.

The designation of Deputy-Assistant Political Agent at Bulhar was altered to that of Deputy District Officer, and continued to be held by Mr. Malcolm Jones, who was, however, employed throughout the year at Perim under the Aden Residency.

Mr. Barnes was appointed local auditor. At the same time each department of the Administration was examined and revised, certain changes and additions tending to increased efficiency being proposed by the Consul-General. These were duly sanctioned by Her Majesty's Government, and will be noticed each under its proper heading.

Protection.

Military: The strength of the detachments of native infantry furnished by the Aden garrison remained as in the preceding year—2 native officers, 5 havildars, and 123 rank and file. These detachments are stationed at Zeyla, Berbera, and Bulhar. Arrangements are in progress to relieve the native infantry by a reformed police locally raised.

Police.

At the commencement of the year the strength and location of the police was as follows:—

<i>Zeyla.</i>								
<i>Camel Corps—</i>								
Sowars	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
<i>Regular Police—</i>								
Jemadar	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Havildar	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Men	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
<i>Baladiya—</i>								
Jemadar	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Havildars	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Men	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
<i>Berbera.</i>								
<i>Camel Corps—</i>								
Jemadar	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Sowars	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12
<i>Foot Police—</i>								
Jemadar	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Havildars	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Men	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	39
<i>Bulhar.</i>								
<i>Camel Corps</i>								
Sowars	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
<i>Foot Police—</i>								
Jemadar	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Havildars	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Men	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16
<i>Karam.</i>								
<i>Foot Police—</i>								
Jemadar	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Men	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6

This force was maintained throughout the year.

Under the new scheme the police forces will be reconstructed as follows, and allotted as required to the different coast towns:—

<i>Camel Corps—</i>								
Ressaldar	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Jemadars	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2
Duffedars	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Sowars	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	46

Military Police—							
Jemadars ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Havildars ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Naiks ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Sepoys ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	65
Civil Police—							
Jemadars ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Havildars ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	9
Naiks ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6
Sepoys ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	91

The enlistment on probation of new recruits to complete establishments on augmentation had progressed satisfactorily by the close of the year under report. The attempt, though, to obtain either Soudanese or Indians locally or in Aden proved a failure, and inquiries are now being made for twenty Soudanese from Suakin.

The Military Police are to be armed with the Martini-Henry rifle, and the Camel Corps and the Civil Police with the Martini-Henry carbine, which, with the necessary ammunition and accoutrements, are being obtained from the Cairo arsenal. In the meanwhile the recruits, who were enlisted at the lowest rate of pay sanctioned for the Civil Police, were at once set to drill under instructors kindly lent by the Officer Commanding the 10th Bombay Infantry.

The antiquated Snider will now disappear, and the police will at last be armed with a more modern weapon, for which the want has long been felt.

Thus reorganized the police force should be an efficient means for the preservation of order in the Protectorate.

The conduct of the men is reported to have been good. A slight improvement was attained in musketry. Under the new scheme more attention will be paid to this important branch in their training.

Criminal Justice.

Zeyla: 97 offenders were tried and punished as against 92 in the previous year. The principal offences were affray, assault, and theft. The maximum imprisonment awarded was six months.

There were no appeals.

Berbera and Bulhar: 350 cases were tried as against 402 in the preceding year, showing a decrease of 52. The number of offenders tried was 577, of whom 94 were discharged. The principal offences were assault and theft: 123 were sentenced to various terms of imprisonment, 114 were flogged, and 242 were sentenced to pay a fine.

There were no appeals.

The majority of these cases were tried by Khan Sahib Mazhar Ali, whose work, both magisterial and judicial, is most favourably reported on.

There was no appeal against decisions to the Vice-Consul.

221 miscellaneous political cases were heard at Berbera during the year under report and 92 at Bulhar, as compared with 326 and 55 respectively in the previous year.

There was one appeal in which the decision was upheld.

Civil Justice.

Zeyla: The Vice-Consul disposed of 307 suits during the year, representing a value of 33,790 rupees, as compared with 296 suits of a value of 34,332 rupees in the previous year.

There were no appeals.

Berbera and Bulhar: 211 suits were disposed of by the Vice-Consul of a value of 25,637 rupees, as against 154 suits, representing a value of 33,211 rupees, in the preceding year.

Khan Sahib Mazhar Ali disposed of 622 suits as against 685 in the previous year. These were petty suits mostly connected with the town of Berbera.

There were no appeals from the decisions of either Court.

Gaols.

Some improvements to the Berbera gaol are under consideration. The admissions this year show a decrease of two criminal and forty-nine political prisoners. It is satisfactory to note that the decrease in criminal prisoners noted in last year's Report has been continued during this year. The decrease in political prisoners is to be attributed to the absence of Kafila loots and serious feuds entailing the arrest of the parties concerned. No attempt at escape from the gaol was made. Two attempts at escape while on outdoor work were made in which one prisoner succeeded in getting away.

The proceeds of sales came to 50 rupees, as against 118 rupees in the previous year.

Marine.

Zeyla.—74 merchant steamers, of a total tonnage of 7,104, visited the port, as compared with 86 steamers of a tonnage of 10,926 in the previous year. Of this number 73 were British and 1 French; 769 country craft entered the port, as against 528 in the preceding year. The increase in country craft is due to increase of trade with Jibuti by sea.

Berbera and Bulhar.—192 merchant-steamers touched at these ports, as against 193 in the previous year. They were all British. The number of country craft was 1,199, as compared with 1,175 in the preceding year. Of this number 357 were British, 814 Arab, 6 Persian, 4 French, and 18 Italian.

One vessel of the Royal Navy visited Zeyla and Berbera, and the Royal Indian Marine ship stationed at Aden made periodical trips round the coast.

At Zeyla the outer and inner reef buoys, which have always given trouble by their liability to shift from their bearing, were relaid and moored by double anchors.

At Berbera one of the leading lights, which gave a defective light, was refitted with a new lamp.

Horticulture.

The receipts on account of the sale of garden produce at Berbera realized 663 rupees, showing an increase of 103 rupees over the sales of the previous year. This is satisfactory, as the attention these gardens demand has not yet been given them, the time of the Administration being occupied with other matters. A start has been made by shipping vegetables to Aden, which were readily taken by the British regiment stationed there.

Nature has proved too strong for garden experiments at Bulhar. The Kharif yearly deluges the garden with sand, and it is very questionable whether, under these conditions, it is worth while to make any attempt to renovate the soil.

Educational.

The Reports on the Berbera school being unsatisfactory, the schoolmaster was dismissed, and a new one entertained in his place, with the result that the attendance at once commenced to increase. The daily attendance during the year averaged 43·87, but little when compared with the population of the town. There are a number of private schools which compete with the Protectorate school.

One of the first acts of the new Administration was to open schools at Zeyla and Bulhar, with a very successful result as to attendance.

Medical.

One thousand one hundred and ninety-three out-patients were treated at the Zeyla Dispensary, as against 1,258 in the preceding year. The only in-patients were the sufferers by the raid committed on two Karias near the Kassanat post by a party from the French Protectorate. For these temporary accommodation was provided. Zeyla's need of a proper hospital will now receive attention.

At Berbera, 3,465 out-door, and 642 in-door, patients were treated at the Ferris Hospital, as compared with 2,142 and 275 respectively in the previous year.

The Bulhar Dispensary afforded relief to 1,780 out-door patients.

At all three places the chief diseases were ulcers, diseases of the digestive and respiratory organs, and local injuries.

There were no epidemics during the year.

A few sporadic cases of small-pox were treated at Bulhar, having been imported from Harrar.

The health of the town was good considering the population and the primitive manner in which the majority of the people live.

Vaccination.

Two hundred and twenty-two operations were performed at Zeyla, against 1,061 in the previous year. The large number of persons vaccinated during the previous year was due to the prevalence of small-pox. It is satisfactory to note that the figures of the present year show an increase of 136 over those of 1896-97.

At Berbera and Bulhar 1,321 persons were operated upon, exceeding the number of the previous year by 41.

Altogether the results may be said to be satisfactory. Time alone will remove the prejudice still existing amongst the people to the practice of vaccination.

Weather.

The mean average temperature at Zeyla was 84·68, the maximum recorded being 99·94 in July, and the minimum 72·87 in April.

At Berbera the temperature generally runs 5 degrees higher than Zeyla.

The rainfall at Berbera was only 66 cents. The fall at Zeyla was quite abnormal, aggregating 10 inches 97 cents, of which 6 inches 67 cents fell in November. This heavy fall was most beneficial to the country, but it was accompanied by a storm which did some damage to native craft in the harbour, and to house property in the town.

Public Works.

On the transfer of the Protectorate, this Department, which had hitherto been under the Executive Engineer at Aden, was reorganized and placed in charge of Mr. Hodgson, the former Overseer, on an increased salary. Little or nothing was done by the Department till the head-quarters of the Administration were moved over to the coast, and temporarily located at Berbera, in November. Certain ordinary and special repairs to existing works were then put in hand, and plans and estimates were prepared for two blocks of eight quarters each for the reformed police at Zeyla and for additions to the Camel Corps lines, and for a house for the Vice-Consul and additions to the Camel Corps and Police lines at Berbera. These charges have been treated as capital charges, as the works were in connection with the reorganization of the Protectorate. The works were commenced towards the close of the year.

The following was the expenditure on works during the last six months of the year:—

						Rupees.
Original ordinary works	..	..	..	..	..	379
Original capital works	..	..	..	..	..	2,678
Repairs	..	..	..	..	..	2,782
Total	..	..	..	..	..	5,839

These figures do not include establishment, nor the Government of India charges for the first six months of the year, which are not yet known.

Trade.

A separate Report has been submitted on the trade and commerce of the Protectorate, in which full details have been given.

I need only here mention that the total value of the trade during the year under report amounted to 1,21,15,123 rupees, being in excess of the figures of the previous year by 16,37,264.

The above includes treasure and the value of live-stock exported free of duty up to December.

In December certain reductions were made in the Zeyla import tariff with a view to benefit the Zeyla-Harrar caravan route, and at the same time an export duty was placed on all live-stock exported from the Protectorate.

In point of trade the year has been the most successful we have had.

Revenue and Finance.

Coincident with the increase in trade, the year under report has been one of unusual prosperity for the Protectorate, the revenue having reached the highest figures hitherto recorded.

The total revenue collections for the year came to 3,80,892 rupees, showing an increase of 69,003 rupees over the previous year's receipts. Zeyla contributed 1,43,002 rupees, and Berbera and Bulhar 2,37,890 rupees, being in excess of the previous year's figures by 35,043 rupees and 43,960 rupees respectively.

At Zeyla the increase is chiefly due to increase of trade with Harrar owing to the Jibuti-Harrar caravan route being closed for a large portion of the year. The increase at Berbera and Bulhar is attributed to the large quantity of rice and food grains imported, to the imposition of a tax on the export of live-stock, and to increase of trade generally.

Of the total receipts, 1,42,618 rupees were collected under customs at Zeyla, and 1,87,000 rupees at Berbera and Bulhar. The balance of receipts at Berbera and Bulhar is chiefly made up of Zariba collections and port dues.

The expenditure for the year cannot be accurately given, as the Government of India charges on account of military for the year, and on account of marine and public works for the six months preceding the transfer, have not yet been received.

Altogether rupees 1,52,950 : 0 : 11 were expended from the local Treasuries of Zeyla and Berbera. To complete the expenditure for the year the Government of India charges above noted must be added, and certain items paid direct from the Aden Treasury. The account of the expenditure for the year, exclusive of Government of India charges, is under preparation for submission to the Comptroller and Auditor-General.

Taking the period from the 1st October to the 31st March, the half-year during which the Protectorate kept its own accounts, the receipts were rupees 2,12,017 : 13 : 6, and the expenditure rupees 87,981 : 14 : 10. The balance in hand on the 1st October was rupees 55,605 : 3 : 10, and on the 1st April last rupees 1,22,708 : 6 : 6.

Here, again, the Government of India charges have to be added, and, with the exception of the balances, the figures will not tally with the accounts submitted to the Comptroller and Auditor-General, as I am here only dealing with actual receipts and expenditure involved in working the Protectorate, and have not taken into account deposits and remittances.

The financial position of the year cannot be accurately determined until we receive the charges on account of military, marine, and public works.

Meanwhile, it is satisfactory to be able to note that the funds of the Protectorate are sufficient to meet any charges that may be preferred, and to provide for a capital expenditure during 1899-1900 of nearly a lac of rupees besides the ordinary expenditure of the year.

Miscellaneous.

The changes which have been made consequent on the reorganization of the various Departments have all been detailed in previous despatches. I will briefly note the following:—

Mr. Antia was appointed Chief Accountant in the Consul-General's office. He was trained in the office of the Accountant-General, Bombay. The pay of the head clerk and the two Dragomen was increased, and slight additions were made to the establishments of the Consul at Zeyla and the Vice-Consul at Berbera. Provision has also been made for the new post of Deputy District Officer, Berbera.

The Customs establishments at Zeyla, Berbera, and Bulhar, and the Zariba establishments at Berbera and Bulhar, have been revised and strengthened.

The port dues at Berbera have been amalgamated with the general revenues of the Protectorate. Portion of the charges on account of conservancy at Berbera have been transferred to the Municipality, and a reorganization of the workshops and gardens, by which a portion of the establishment has been transferred to the Municipality, has resulted in a saving to Protectorate revenues. At Zeyla an increase to the conservancy establishment was sanctioned.

The rates of pay of the harbour police at Berbera were readjusted so as to give the men a fair prospect of promotion.

Certain other small increases to the salary drawn by the lower paid servants of the Protectorate were also sanctioned.

The net result of the reorganization of the Departments was an annual increase of expenditure of 6,295 rupees, of which 2,791 rupees are to be set down to increase of former salaries, mostly to officials who had done excellent service without promotion, and 3,504 rupees to increase of establishments. On the other hand, against this increased expenditure, a budget saving of 2,859 rupees resulting from the changes made must be set off.

Extradition.—In October a demand was received from the French authorities at Jibuti for the extradition of three Italians accused of affray and attempt to murder in Jibuti. Extradition was granted in the following December.

Zeyla-Harrar Postal Service.—Arrangements were made for replacing the foot-runners by a regular weekly mounted service, doing the distance of 192 miles in three and a-half days. A hut was built at Somadu for the accommodation of the postal messengers.

Mail Service.—The contract for the carriage of the mails between Aden and the coast expiring on the 31st March, the opportunity was taken of arranging for a weekly mail to be carried by the local steamers of Messrs. Cowasji Dinshaw, of Aden, in lieu of the former irregular running of seven deliveries in eight weeks. At the same time arrangements were made by which the Consul-General could secure the service of one of the steamers belonging to this firm to visit the coast-line at certain fixed rates of charter.

Shooting Parties.—During the year ten parties visited the Protectorate for purposes of sport, making a total of twenty-nine individuals, including three ladies. No accidents occurred, and no cases of interference with the natives were reported. The above includes an expedition organized by Mr. Seton-Karr, which mustered six persons divided into three parties.

Tours.—Early in December the Consul-General visited most of the ports along the coast-line to the east of Berbera in a chartered steamer.

The Acting Consul at Zeyla made two tours, visiting most of the district under his charge.

Native Titles.—On the 1st January the title of Khan Sahib was conferred by the Government of India on Messrs. Aderji Sorabji and Mazhar Ali, the Customs Superintendents of Zeyla and Berbera, as personal distinction for long and meritorious services performed in the Protectorate.

Results of the Administration.—As has been previously noted, the year has been the most prosperous the Protectorate has yet known, both in volume of trade and in revenue receipts. A portion of the increase in trade, and consequently in revenue, on the Zeyla side is due to the closing of the Jibuti-Harrar caravan route owing to internal troubles in the French Protectorate, but a portion must also be attributed to increase of trade generally. Since the close of the year under report the Jibuti route has again been opened, and we cannot blind ourselves to the serious injury which menaces our trade from the railway now under construction from Jibuti to the Harrar Province, should the scheme reach completion, and no counteracting measures be taken on our side. The year was free from drought, and was one of general prosperity for the tribes, the only drawback being a loss of goats from disease, which chiefly affected the Berbera side of the Protectorate in the latter half of the year. Measures were put in hand for the increase to the police forces which are to relieve the detachments of native infantry now garrisoning the port towns. The various Departments of the Administration were revised. The claims of old officials to promotion were recognized and promptly dealt with, and certain changes and augmentations of establishments made which it is hoped will lead to increased efficiency. Peace was maintained throughout the Protectorate, broken only by the usual tribal and intertribal raids, which were not of serious import. The caravan routes were respected, the tribes showed a tendency to live more at peace with one another, and generally some advance was made in moral and material progress.

Matters political, however, and those connected with our relations with the tribes, have been dealt with elsewhere than in this Report.

Lieutenant C. F. Harold, the Acting Consul at Zeyla, and Lieutenant H. E. S. Cordeaux, the Acting Vice-Consul at Berbera, have rendered me valuable assistance in the administration of the Protectorate by the able and efficient manner in which they performed the duties appertaining to their respective posts. Both officers speak highly of the work done by the Departments under their charge, particularly of the Customs under the superintendence of Khan Sahib Aderji Sorabji and Khan Sahib Mazhar Ali.

The Dragomans Deria Magan and Hasan Ahmed, old servants of the Protectorate, continued to merit the good opinion previously recorded of their work.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

No. 81.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 4.)

(No. 66.)

My Lord,

Hargaisa, August 14, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to submit a completed copy of the Contract for the carriage of mails between Aden and the coast, which has been negotiated with Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw, Brothers, of Aden.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

Inclosure in No. 81.

Contract for the Carriage of Mails between Aden and the Coast, signed July 22, 1899.

ARTICLES of Agreement made and entered into at Berbera on the 22nd day of July, 1899, between Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, hereinafter called the Government, of the one part, and Messrs. Cowasjee Dinshaw and Hormusjee Cowasjee Dinshaw, merchants, trading in the name, style, and firm of Cowasjee Dinshaw and Brothers, hereinafter called the ship-owners, of the other parts:

Witnesseth that the said ship-owners do, in consideration of certain conditions hereinafter mentioned by these Articles, bind themselves, their heirs, executors, and assigns, for a term of eight months, commencing from the 1st August, 1899, and ending on the 31st March, 1900, to run their own or other suitable steamers between Aden, Zeyla, and Berbera, for the carriage of mails, stores, Government passengers, baggage, animals, &c., on the following terms:—

(a.) That the said ship-owners shall run a weekly mail service from Aden to Zeyla and Berbera, in such a way as to deliver the English mails received at Aden the previous Sunday at Zeyla not later than the Thursday following, and at Berbera not later than Friday.

(b.) That the mails may be conveyed by the said ship-owners in their own steamers, or by steamers belonging to others, and chartered by them for the purpose.

(c.) That, in consideration of their undertaking to convey the mails as aforesaid, Government shall pay to the said ship-owners at the rate of 750 rupees per mensem.

(d.) That the said ship-owners shall, if required by Government, convey in their said mail-steamers Government stores, passengers, baggage, animals, &c., at the rates shown in the Schedule attached to these presents.

(e.) That the said ship-owners shall give notice of sailing from Aden to the Resident at Aden and the Post Office, Aden, at least twenty-four hours before the time of sailing. Provided also that the vessel remains at Zeyla and Berbera at least four hours of daylight at each place.

(f.) That in the event of the mails not being delivered at Zeyla by Thursday, or at Berbera by Friday, the said ship-owners shall be liable to a penalty of 100 rupees for every day's delay in delivering the mails at the aforesaid places.

And the said Government agree to pay to the said ship-owners at the rate of 750 rupees per mensem for the carriage by them of the mails as aforesaid, and further, to pay at the rates shown in the Schedule to these presents for the carriage of stores, passengers, baggage, animals, &c., in their vessel.

Provided always that, should any accident happen to the ship-owners' steamers, or other steamer employed by them in the carriage of mails, &c., as aforesaid, in consequence of which the said ship-owners are unable to fulfil the conditions of the Contract, the said ship-owners shall, subject to the condition stated in the Article (f), be entitled to receive payment for such trips, or portion of trips only, as the steamer may have actually performed in the month for which the payment is due, in proportion to the full number of sailings contracted to be performed, the decision of Her Majesty's Consul-General on the Somali Coast as to the proportion payable to be final.

In witness whereof, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has caused Her Majesty's Consul-General on the Somali Coast to set his hand and seal, and Hormusjee Cowasjee Dinshaw, and Cowasjee Dinshaw, and Dorabjee Dinshaw, have hereunto set their hands and seals.

(Per pro Cowasjee Dinshaw),
(Signed) HORMUSJEE COWASJEE.
(Per pro Dorabji Dinshaw),
HORMUSJEE COWASJEE.
HORMUSJEE COWASJEE DINSHAW.

Witnessed by—
(Signed) D. MACLENNING (?),
Clerk to the Owners.

(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER, Her Britannic Majesty's
Consul-General.

Witnessed by—
(Signed) H. E. S. CORDEAUX,
Vice-Consul.

SCHEDULE of Rates for the Carriage of Government Stores, Passengers, Baggage, Animals, &c.

	Rs.	a.	
From Aden to Zeyla, Bulhar, or Berbera; or from Zeyla or Bulhar or Berbera to Aden; or from Bulhar or Berbera to Zeyla via Aden—			
Cabin passengers (without food)	20	0	per head.
Deck " "	5	0	"
Stores or goods, in bags	0	12	each.
" " in cases or other packages	7	8	per ton of 40 cubic feet.
Horses or camels (including keeper)	10	0	each.
From any one of the ports of Berbera, Bulhar, or Zeyla, to any other port on the Somali Coast—			
Cabin passengers (without food)	15	0	per head.
Deck " "	4	0	"
Stores or goods, in bags	0	6	each.
" " in cases or other packages	5	0	per ton of 40 cubic feet.
Horses or camels (including keeper)	10	0	each.

No. 82.

Sir R. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 4.)

(No. 167.)

My Lord,

Cairo, August 28, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a report of a speech made by the Governor-General of the Soudan on the occasion of the opening of the bridge over the Atbara on the 26th instant.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

RENNELL RODD.

Inclosure in No. 82.

Deputy Adjutant-General to Lewa Pasha.

(Telegraphic.)

Atbara, August 26, 1899.

THE Sirdar and staff arrived at Atbara at 10 A.M. on the 26th instant, and was met by Jackson Bey, Mudir of Berber, and the Notables of the district, and immediately proceeded to open the bridge, which was decked with flags for the occasion. Having driven in the last rivet, the Sirdar steamed across the bridge on an engine, and the troops fired a "feu de joie," the Sirdar then made the following speech:—

"Gentlemen,

"I have great pleasure in declaring the Atbara Bridge open, and I congratulate you all very heartily on the excellent work which has enabled us to add another record construction to our railway achievement. It was not until May 1896 that railway construction was commenced in the Soudan, and it is satisfactory to note that we have to-day 587 miles of line actually working to the north of this bridge, and 122 miles completed on the extension to south, thus leaving us only 75 miles to lay before reaching our goal at Khartoum. During this work we have had many grave difficulties to overcome, principally caused by the military necessity of constructing the line without any proper detailed surveys; we all remember how, when pushing the line across the desert towards Abu Hamed at a time when that place was still held by the Dervishes, we had to trust for the accuracy of our direction to local information, and to our own good luck. I am thankful to say that even under these conditions the line was so laid out that had we to make it again in perfect peace, no change would be, in my opinion, necessary. Another great difficulty has been the constant washouts, which I am sorry to see have lately done so much damage. In 1896 we had 17 miles of the line completely washed away in one day, and no sooner was that repaired than a further washout carried away another 10 miles of line. This year I regret to learn that our line up to the Atbara is not so well bridged as to prevent any serious breakdown; that on the unbridged, 120 miles to the south, so much damage has been done by storms, that our work has been delayed by one and a-half to two months in a country where such violent tempests are prevalent at this time of the year. It is impossible to avoid these contretemps, which I am glad to see are being faced and overcome with the splendid spirit that has always been shown by our officers and men. As regards this magnificent bridge, Gentlemen, I think we may fairly claim that it is a record achievement. It was only well into last October that the credits were authorized for the extension of the line to Khartoum; the site for the bridge had then to be determined upon, borings and soundings and sections of the river had to be completed, the eight solid double piers to carry the superstructure had to be sunk down to the rock below the river bed to meet the Atbara flood, which this year arrived twenty-five days earlier than our experience had led us to expect. But, Gentlemen, this did not catch us napping, for owing to the energy displayed, the piers were completed more than twenty-five days earlier than was thought possible, and when the flood wave came, it passed harmlessly by, carrying away only our temporary bridge, by which we had pushed on our railway construction to the south. In November and December 1898, every effort was made to place the order for the superstructure in England, but it was found impossible for British firms to supply so big an undertaking in the time allowed. This was a matter of considerable regret to me personally, and I think it demonstrates that the relations between labour and capital in our country are not such as to give sufficient confidence to capitalists to induce them to run the risk of

establishing the great up-to-date workshops and plant which are necessary to enable Great Britain to maintain her proud position as the first constructing nation in the world. Well, Gentlemen, where Englishmen failed, we were all delighted to find that our cousins across the Atlantic stepped in, and the opening of this bridge to-day is due to their energy and ability, and to the power which they possess in so marked a degree of turning out works of this magnitude in a less time than can be done by any one else. I congratulate the American foremen and workmen on the excellent success which has crowned their efforts in the erection of this bridge in the heart of Africa, far from their homes, during the very hot months of the year, depending solely for labour on men who speak a foreign tongue—they have shown by their work what real merit they are made of. I should also like to mention the excellent work of Messrs. Thomas and Co., by whom the piers were built, and while offering both these first, our best thanks, I think, Gentlemen, you must fully realize how impossible it would have been for me to carry out this railway construction in anything like the time, or at anything like the cost, had it not been for the indefatigable zeal of the young officers of my own corps, who have been responsible for this great work, as well as for the untiring efforts of the Egyptian officers, non-commissioned officers, and men who have been employed upon it. It is my pleasant duty to express to Lieutenants Macauley, Stevenson, Micklem, Midwinter, and Newcombe, and to El Kaim, Mohammed Bey Rifaat, and to Messrs. Saunderson and Adams, and to all those who have worked on this line the gratitude of the officers, non-commissioned officers, and men of the army, and of the people of the Soudan, on the complete success of this great undertaking. We all hope that they will shortly surmount the difficulties that still remain before them, and thus enable me, within the next few months, to open the station at Khartoum. When this has been done, I think we may all look with confidence to the full enjoyment of the fruits of our labours."

The Sirdar then inspected the troops, who gave three cheers, and the National Anthems were played. On arriving at where the Notables stood, the Sirdar informed them that the bridge would be free for the passage of all, without tolls, which announcement was received with many expressions of gratitude.

No. 83.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received September 4.)

WITH reference to Consul-General Sadler's telegram of the 3rd instant, the Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Lord George Hamilton, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Political Resident, Aden, relative to the hostile attitude of the Mullah, Haji Muhammad Abdullah.

India Office, September 4, 1899.

Inclosure in No. 83.

Brigadier-General Cuningham to India Office.

(Telegraphic.)

Aden, September 3, 1899.

OWING to persistent rumours of attack on Berbera by Mullah, I have dispatched (30th August) coast relief, composed of 200 native infantry, to this port as reinforcement if necessary. Report has reached me from Vice-Consul (1st September) that rumour is well founded, and parties will be detained pending communication with Consul-General, who is at Jar Ata. I have received information from Consul-General to-day, dated 31st August, that he heard of possible movement of Mullah on Berbera, and asked for troops, through the Foreign Office, to suppress him. Consul-General returns to Berbera. Bombay Government informed.

No. 84.

Foreign Office to India Office.

(Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 4, 1899.

WITH reference to my letter of this day inclosing a telegram from Her Majesty's Consul-General on the Somali Coast on the subject of a rising in the Protectorate I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to request that you will call Lord George Hamilton's attention to the serious position reported by Colonel Sadler.

The Mullah, it now appears, has advanced to Burao with a force of 1,500 men and threatens to attack Hargaisa and possibly Berbera.

As the force of 400 men requested by Colonel Sadler appears to be urgently needed for the security of the Protectorate, Lord Salisbury trusts that Lord George Hamilton will arrange with the Government of India that immediate steps be taken to give Colonel Sadler all possible assistance in the matter.

Lord Salisbury has requested the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to make immediate arrangements for the presence of a ship of war at Berbera.

I am, &c.

(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 85.

Foreign Office to Admiralty.

(Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 4, 1899.

WITH reference to my letter of this day inclosing a telegram from Her Majesty's Consul-General on the Somali Coast on the subject of a rising in the Protectorate, I am to state, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, that the Mullah referred to is a fanatical priest who for some time past has threatened to give trouble in the interior of the Protectorate at a distance from the coast.

It appears that he has now advanced to Burao with a force of 1,500 men, and threatens to advance on Hargeisa and possibly on Berbera.

Colonel Sadler reports that the position is serious, and among other steps to be taken for suppressing the rising he suggests that Berbera should be watched by a man-of-war.

In your letter of the 2nd June last it is stated that arrangements have been made for one of Her Majesty's ships to make a periodical visit to the Somali Coast, and in view of the present critical situation Lord Salisbury trusts that the Lords Commissioners will be able to arrange for the immediate dispatch of a ship to Berbera as suggested by Colonel Sadler.

I am, &c.

(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 86.

Foreign Office to War Office.

(Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 4, 1899.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to transmit to you, to be laid before the Secretary of State for War, the decypher of a telegram from Her Majesty's Consul-General on Somali Coast reporting that a fanatical Mullah, who has recently been giving trouble in the interior of the Protectorate, has advanced to Burao with 1,500 men, and threatens to attack Hargaisa and possibly Berbera.*

A copy of a telegram received by the India Office from the Resident at Aden, and copies of letters from this Department to the India Office and Admiralty on the subject are also inclosed.†

Lord Salisbury will be obliged if Lord Lansdowne will take these papers into consideration and favour him with any observations which he and his military advisers may have to offer as to course to be pursued.

I am, &c.

(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

* No. 78*.

† Nos. 83, 84, and 85.

No. 86*.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 5.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Perim, September 5, 1899.

Berbera, 2nd September.—I have nothing further to report respecting the position and intentions of the Mullah, but there are continuous rumours of a projected move against Berbera.

With the concurrence of the Resident at Aden, I have detained the old relief of native infantry as a very temporary measure. The detachment here will thus be doubled.

No. 87.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Consul-General Sadler.

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, September 5, 1899.

I HAVE received your telegram of the 31st ultimo.

The Resident at Aden has, I understand, dispatched to Berbera 200 native infantry, and the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty have been asked to send a ship of war there. I presume that, for defensive purposes, these measures will be sufficient. We must be certain that we have an adequate force, and we ought to know exactly what the plan is before we embark on offensive operations.

No. 88.

Sir R. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury—(Received September 6.)

(No. 164.)

Cairo, August 25, 1899.

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that Captain Wellby, who has just arrived here after his journey through Southern Abyssinia and round Lake Rudolph, reports having come across coal in British Somaliland between Berbera and Hargeisa. The deposits were, he says, well known to the Somalis in the district, but he was unable to form any opinion of their extent or quality.

I am forwarding a copy of this despatch to Colonel Hayes Sadler.

I have, &c.

(Signed) RENNELL RODD.

No. 89.

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(Received September 6.)

Sir,

Admiralty, September 5, 1899.

WITH reference to your letter of the 4th instant, I am commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to state, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, that a telegram has been received from the Commander-in-chief on the East Indies Station, stating that Her Majesty's ship "Pomone" will be sent to Berbera.

I am, &c.

(Signed) C. J. THOMAS, *Pro Sec.*

No. 90.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received September 6.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Lord George Hamilton, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Resident, Aden, relative to the advance of the Mullah Abdullah in the Somali Protectorate.

India Office, September 6, 1899.

Inclosure in No. 90.

Brigadier-General Cuninghame to Lord G. Hamilton.

(Telegraphic.)

Aden, September 5, 1899.

IN continuation of cypher telegram of the 3rd September, following is extract from letter from Consul-General yesterday :—

“Mullah in force Burao. Numbers not known. Report current here that he will probably advance. We wish to compel evacuation of Burao. Maxims shortly expected.”

Officer commanding reliefs Berbera has been instructed not to move in the matter until he has received orders from Aden, unless matter of special urgency, or in order to secure European officers, who now have returned Berbera.

Governor of Bombay duly informed.

No. 91.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received September 7.)

Sir,

India Office, September 6, 1899.

I AM directed by Lord George Hamilton to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 4th September, giving cover to a telegram from Her Majesty's Consul-General on the Somali Coast reporting that the Mullah Mohammed Abdullah is collecting troops to advance on Hargeisa and possibly Berbera, and asking for the services of 100 mounted men and 300 infantry.*

I am further to inclose a copy of a telegram from the Resident at Aden, reporting that he dispatched the coast relief of 200 men to Berbera on receipt of the news of the Mullah's threatened advance.

Lord George Hamilton presumes that this reinforcement is sufficient in the meantime to safeguard Berbera. It would appear from the latest distribution list of the Bombay army that the garrison at that port on the 1st June last consisted of fifty-four men of the 10th Bombay Infantry, and that there were fifty-six men of the same regiment at Zeyla and twenty at Bulhar. He has, however, instructed the Government of India to send any further reinforcements that may be necessary for the defence of the Protectorate.

In the event of further demands being made upon the Aden garrison with a view to offensive operations being undertaken against the Mullah, Lord George Hamilton hopes that the considerations laid before the Marquess of Salisbury in Sir A. Godley's letter of the 16th May last will not be lost sight of.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HORACE WALPOLE.

No. 92.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received September 8.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Lord George Hamilton, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram to the Viceroy, dated the 6th September, on the subject of reinforcements for the defence of the Somali Protectorate.

India Office, September 7, 1899.

* See Inclosure in No. 83.

Inclosure in No. 92.

Lord G. Hamilton to the Government of India.

(Telegraphic.)

India Office, September 6, 1899.

SEE telegram of the 3rd September, Aden to Bombay. Somali Coast.

If further reinforcements considered necessary for immediate defence of Protectorate, please take necessary steps. Question of assuming offensive will be considered later.

No. 93.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Lord Currie.

(No. 127.)

Foreign Office, September 8, 1899.

My Lord,

THE despatches, of which I transmit copies herewith,* will make your Excellency acquainted with the result of discussions which have recently taken place between Her Majesty's Agent in Abyssinia and the Emperor Menelek in regard to the settlement of the frontiers of Abyssinia with the Soudan on the west and south-west, and with the British sphere of influence in East Africa in the south.

Your Excellency will also find the Sirdar's views on the question stated in Sir R. Rodd's despatch No. 155 of the 19th ultimo, and in these views Viscount Cromer has expressed his concurrence.

Speaking generally, and subject to the arrangement of matters of detail, Her Majesty's Government are disposed to regard as acceptable the proposed frontier between Abyssinia and the Soudan, but, owing to the absence of accurate knowledge of the country through which the line runs from Famaka southward to Lake Rudolf, they propose to take steps for obtaining further information, and two surveying parties will be sent out in the course of the autumn with this object.

So far as concerns the frontier on the south between Abyssinia and the British sphere of influence in East Africa, the proposals of the Emperor Menelek are not considered by Her Majesty's Government to be acceptable as they stand, but will require further discussion after consultation with the British authorities in Uganda.

The Italian Ambassador has more than once expressed the hope of his Government that they may be made acquainted with the nature of the proposals made by the Emperor Menelek, and it is obvious that the question affects Italian interests, both because the frontier-line starts on the north from a point assumed to be on the boundary between Erythræa and the Emperor Menelek's dominions, and because, in the proposal submitted to Her Majesty's Government, the northern portion of the line has been drawn to the east of the boundary of the Italian sphere of influence as agreed upon in the Anglo-Italian Protocol of the 15th April, 1891, though, on the other hand, to the south of Famaka the line includes in Abyssinian territory a considerable portion of the sphere assigned to Egypt by the same Protocol.

The request of the Italian Government is one with which Her Majesty's Government have every wish to comply, and I have only deferred instructing your Excellency to make a communication on the subject until a map has been prepared showing the exact nature of the proposals which have been made by the Emperor Menelek.

Copies are now inclosed of this map, which also shows the line agreed upon in the Protocol of 1891 for the division of Anglo-Egyptian and Italian spheres and that portion of the boundary-line between Erythræa and the Egyptian Soudan which has actually been delimited.

I request that your Excellency will communicate this map to the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs, with such explanation as you may think necessary to elucidate the proposals of the Emperor Menelek, and that you will invite his Excellency's observations upon them.

You will state that Her Majesty's Government have returned no definite answer as yet to the Emperor Menelek on the subject, and are desirous of learning the views of the Italian Government before doing so.

* Nos. 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 33, 36, 51, 61, 62, and 70; Anglo-Italian Protocol, April 15, 1891 (Parliamentary Paper); and Map (two copies).

In case the Marquis Visconti-Venosta should discuss the question with you, your Excellency might observe that the Protocol of 1891 was concluded on the understanding that Abyssinia was under the control of Italy; that the claims of the Emperor Menelek on the southern portion of the line extend in a westerly direction far beyond the line of the Protocol; and that, if Italy has been unable to restrain him within the limits agreed upon, it seems equitable that Egypt should have some compensation in the north for this loss of country in the south.

You might also draw his Excellency's attention to the separate Protocol of the 15th April, 1891 (printed as an Annex to Sir R. Rodd's despatch No. 144 of the 4th August, 1899), which provides for the eventual reoccupation by Egypt of any territory from which Italy might withdraw. The boundary between Italian and Egyptian territory should, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, be drawn on the principle of mutual convenience, with the object of securing economical and effective administration on either side of the line. The country in question being of no great value, there should be little difficulty in arriving at an agreement, and as regards the question of form, Her Majesty's Government would be desirous of considering, as far as possible, the wishes of that of Italy.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 94.

*Foreign Office to Treasury.**

(Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 9, 1899.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to transmit to you, to be laid before the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, a copy of a despatch from Her Majesty's Agent in Abyssinia,† who is now in England, advocating the grant of a Government guarantee for the purpose of buying out the rights of the French Jibuti-Harrar Railway Company, and replacing that line by one starting from Berbera in the British Somali Coast Protectorate.

Lord Salisbury would be glad to be favoured with any observations which the Lords Commissioners may wish to make on Captain Harrington's despatch.

A similar letter has been addressed to the India Office.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 95.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 11.)

(No. 67.)

My Lord,

Hargaisa, August 19, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to report two instances in which the action taken has resulted in the seizure of arms smuggled into the Protectorate from Jibuti, and the arrest of some of the parties concerned.

Last week it was reported from Berbera that two rifles and 200 rounds of ammunition had been seized by a party of sowars of the Camel Corps beyond the Golis, who had been sent out on receipt of information that six rifles were being passed through the Abdillah Ishak tribe. The persons who were in possession of the arms were arrested and taken into Berbera.

To-day the arrest of nine persons carrying nine rifles and ammunition is reported from Bulhar. These persons were seen by the tribesmen some distance from Zeyla moving in the direction of Bulhar; intimation was sent to Bulhar by the first steamer, and whilst inquiries were being made in that port, information had been received that the parties had just left the town. Mr. Harichand, who is in charge of Bulhar during the absence of Mr. Malcolm Jones at Berbera until Lieutenant Cordeaux returns from the interior, at once sent out a party of mounted and foot police, who effected the capture of the arms and the persons who were making off with them; these were all Habr Yunis men. Owing to a report being brought in that the party of Habr Yunis

* Also to India Office.

† No. 72.

had fired on the police, a report which afterwards turned out to be untrue, the detachment of native infantry stationed at Bulhar was turned out. After they had marched a mile and a-half they met the police returning with the prisoners. Their presence was never required, and they should not have been employed in this manner without definite instructions, which I may say would not have been given in such a case.

Otherwise Mr. Harichand's prompt action is to be commended.

In both these instances our police have behaved well. In the first instance they captured their men over 50 miles from Berbera. As I have offered a reward of 10 rupees for each rifle brought in, I propose to distribute a portion of this money amongst the police concerned in the capture of the arms, both as a reward for good service and as an inducement to others.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

No. 96.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 11.)

(No. 68.)

My Lord,

Hargaisa, August 20, 1899.

SINCE my despatch No. 61 of the 5th instant was written, the arms and accoutrements for the new police, with the exception of the camel-saddles from Bombay, have been received. The Acting Consul of Zeyla, who has just left my camp, will be back in Zeyla by the middle of next month, and will then proceed to arm the new police and train them in the use of the new rifle. This should be completed by the end of the following November, and there should be no necessity to keep the detachment of native infantry at Zeyla beyond the close of the year.

I would accordingly request that I may be authorized to arrange with the General Officer Commanding at Aden for the withdrawal of the Zeyla detachment at the time of the ordinary reliefs at the commencement of January.

On the withdrawal of the detachment, I propose to place a guard of Soudanese over the military zareba, and utilize that building partly as a hospital and partly as a store-house.

In view of the political situation on the Berbera side, I do not propose to issue the new arms to the Berbera police till after my return to the coast in October. As we shall not be able to dispense with the Berbera detachment yet awhile, this delay will not signify; it will in fact result in some saving. The Bulhar detachment can be withdrawn when our arrangements at Berbera are completed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

No. 97.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 11.)

(No. 69. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Hargaisa, August 20, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to inclose translation of a letter from the Mullah Muhammad Abdullah to the Aidagalleh, as a specimen of the manner in which he has been trying to seduce the tribes from their allegiance to us. Although this letter has only now come into my hands, there is reason to believe that it reached Sultan Deria of the Aidagalleh some two months ago, for Sheikh Mattar tells me that about that time Sultan Deria sent a message to him saying that he had heard from the Mullah, and asking his advice as to whether he should join him or not.

The allusion to "making our children their children" evidently refers to the Roman Catholic Mission at Berbera, about which it is known that Sultan Nur sent and took false reports to the Mullah, probably with the view of ingratiating himself with him.

I may here explain that the Mission consists of three members—two Fathers and one Brother—and thirty-nine boys. The Mission has been established for many years

in Berbera, and though it was looked upon with suspicion at first, that feeling has worn off, and the people are now well accustomed to the presence of the Fathers, and pay little attention to their educational proceedings. No boy can be received into the Mission without the consent of a near relation who has to sign a paper in the presence of the Vice-Consul that he leaves the boy of his own free will, and that he will not withdraw him before a certain age, which is generally fixed at 18. As a rule the boys are brought to the Mission by their parents to save the latter the expense of keeping them. The Fathers take great pains with the education of the boys, but they have not been altogether fortunate in those they have turned out; and in the case of the few converts they have made, these revert to their original faith as soon as they get back amongst their people. As medical missionaries the Fathers have done a great deal of good in dispensing medicines and healing the sick in the town, and this is appreciated by the townspeople.

Attached to the Mission, but in a separate building, are a Lady Superior and two Sisters. They never have more than three or four small girls from the waifs and strays of the town, who stay but a short time with them. The institution is a failure; the Sisters are generally ill, and I have more than once suggested to the Fathers the impropriety of subjecting the Sisters to the deleterious effects of residence for consecutive hot weathers on the coast for such poor results.

It is the hope of the Mission that they may be allowed to move on to the uplands of the Protectorate. Such a question, they have been told, cannot be considered for some years to come.

I do not consider that the presence of this Mission in Berbera has had anything to do with the movement that originated in the Dolbahanta, though it is doubtless a useful lever with which to try and raise disaffection amongst our Mahomedan tribes. I showed the letter to which allusion has been made above to Sheikh Mattar, the Head of the religious community here, and he at once said, "Why, it is the writer who is destroying our religion."

I have very little to report regarding the Mullah; he is still in the neighbourhood of Bohotele, but rumours are current that he is shortly making a move towards Burao. On the other hand, the sections of the eastern Habr Yunis, who have all along been reported to be with him, have now written in asking to be allowed to go to Berbera. They have been told to send their Headmen to Berbera, where they will be told the conditions on which they will be permitted to bring in their caravans. I propose to allow these people to trade as usual with our ports, as it is my object to detach them quietly from the Mullah, but in order to have a hold over them after the caravan season is over, I shall take a cash security from each section before it is permitted to bring its caravans.

I am moving my camp to-morrow in the direction of the western Habr Yunis tribes, where I shall be in closer touch with Berbera, and better able to sift the reports from the eastern districts than I am here.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

P.S.—A copy of this despatch is being sent to Cairo.

J. H. S.

Inclosure in No. 97.

Mullah Muhammad Abdullah to the Aidagalleh.

(Translation.)

[Undated.]

SALAAM to you all the Aidagalleh! Fear God as he should be feared, and take heed that ye die not except in the faith. I say to you do not disobey your Amir, also we are all brothers. I wish every tribe of you well, and I require of you that you reform the religion of God and the Shariah of his Prophet upon whom be peace. The Kafirs are our enemies; do you not see that they have destroyed our religion and made our children their children. I want you to assist me, and to come to me you and Sultan Deria,

No. 98.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received September 12.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Lord George Hamilton, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Resident, Aden, dated the 11th September, on the subject of the Mullah's rising in Somaliland.

India Office, September 11, 1899.

Inclosure in No. 98.

Brigadier-General Cuningham to Lord G. Hamilton.

(Telegraphic.)

Aden, September 11, 1899.

IN continuation of previous telegram of the 5th September. Following is extract from letter from military officer, Berbera, yesterday :—

“Mullah's advance guard Dubbur, enemy attacked by friendlies; it does not appear probable that he will advance Berbera.”

Government Bombay duly informed.

No. 99.

Sir R. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 12.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, September 12, 1899.

THE Sirdar informs me that he has received letters from Ali Dinar in Darfour, professing warm loyalty towards the Soudan Government. Ali Dinar appears to be able to hold his own against the Dervishes, and has recently been fighting Dafallah, the fugitive Emir from Bor, who is carrying on communications with the Khalifa, and has looted the tribes in the Bahr-el-Ghazal district.

No. 100.

Mr. Gray to Foreign Office.—(Received September 13.)

Sir,

2, Paper Buildings, Temple, September 12, 1899.

IN reply to Mr. Bertie's letter of the 28th August, transmitting, for my observations, the draft Regulations for mines and minerals in Somaliland, as amended by Consul-General Hayes Sadler, I have the honour to submit that the Regulations may properly be approved, subject to the amendments made on the copy herewith.

The Consul-General has in a number of places provided for a reference to, or exercise of, discretion by “Her Majesty's Government.” In this respect he has followed the Indian Rules more closely than the Secretary of State will probably think desirable. In the circumstances of the Protectorate, the Consul-General must assume the powers and duties both of the District Officer and of the Local Government in India. He may refer any question to the Secretary of State, but he should not, I think, deprive himself of the power and responsibility of making decisions.

In place of the proviso to Regulation 8, I have substituted a general Regulation (19) as to the grant of licences to foreigners.

In the Regulations now numbered 11 and 17, I suggest that the conditions under those heads should be implied in every licence, so as to obviate the necessity of inserting them in the licences.

The Regulations will, I presume, be made under the new Order in Council.

I have, &c.

(Signed) A. GRAY.

Inclosure in No. 100.

Regulations made by Her Majesty's Consul-General for Somaliland, with the approval of the Secretary of State, under Article of the Somaliland Order in Council, 1899.

Mines and Minerals : Exploring Licences.

1. LICENCES to explore for minerals in the Somaliland Protectorate may be issued by the Consul-General.

2. Each licence shall run for one year, but may be renewed for a similar term. A fee of 10 rupees will be charged for each licence or renewal thereof.

3. Export duty at the rates mentioned in Schedule (B) will be levied on all minerals found and removed by an explorer, whether he has taken out a licence or not.

4. In the case of precious stones, the discovery of such stones must be reported to the Consul-General within a reasonable time. Neglect to do so will render the explorer liable to the forfeiture of his licence, and of all claim to favourable consideration of any application for a prospecting or mining licence.

5. A licence to explore merely confers on the licensee the right to search for minerals within the area specified in the licence, and subject to the consent of the tribes or occupiers of the land. It conveys no exclusive or preferential rights; but in considering rival claims for a prospecting or mining licence, due regard will be had to operations conducted under an exploring licence.

Prospecting Licences.

6. A licence to prospect for minerals or mineral oil shall confer on the licensee the sole right, subject to the conditions contained in the licence, to enter into arrangements with the tribes or occupiers of the land, to mine, quarry, bore, dig, and search for, win, work, and carry away any mineral or mineral oil specified in the licence, and lying or being within, under, or throughout the land specified in the licence. These arrangements will be effected through the Consular Officer of the district in which the land is situated, and will be subject to the approval of the Consul-General. They will be reduced to writing, and will be duly recorded.

7. Every application for a prospecting licence must be presented in writing to the Consul-General, and shall contain the following particulars, namely:—

(a.) The name, residence, and profession of the applicant;

(b.) A description as accurate as possible, and illustrated by a rough sketch map, of the situation and area of the land with respect to which the licence is required; and

(c.) A specification of the mineral or minerals for which the applicant desires to prospect.

8. On the receipt of such application, the Consul-General shall cause such inquiries as he may consider necessary to be made, and if he finds that there is no objection to the grant of the licence applied for, may grant to the applicant a licence in such form as may be prescribed.

9. A register of applications for prospecting licences shall be kept in the Consul-General's Office, specifying briefly the particulars of each application received. There shall also be recorded in the same Office a copy of each licence issued by the Consul-General under these Regulations.

10. The term for which the licence shall be granted shall be one year or such shorter term as the applicant may desire. The licence may be renewed by the Consul-General for a further term, not exceeding two years, whenever he is satisfied that the licensee has been prevented from completing his search of the land by any cause other than his own default.

11. Every prospecting licence shall contain such conditions as may in any particular case seem necessary, but in all cases the following conditions shall be implied:—

(1.) No land in the occupation of any tribe or person shall be entered upon without the consent of the occupier, and the licensee shall abide by the terms of the

arrangements he enters into with the tribes or occupiers of the land covered by the licence.

(2.) The licensee shall pay export duty on all minerals and precious stones removed from the Protectorate at the rates mentioned in the attached Schedule (B).

(3.) Such licence cannot be assigned, nor any right or interest thereunder be transferred without the consent of the Consul-General.

(4.) In case of any breach on the part of the licensee, or his employés, of any of the conditions of his licence, or of any clause of the Regulations, hereinafter mentioned, under which the licence is granted, the Consul-General may summarily revoke the licence, and thereupon all rights conferred thereby or enjoyed thereunder shall cease.

(5.) Should any question arise regarding the licence, or any matter or thing connected therewith, or the powers of the licensee thereunder, the matter in difference shall be decided by the Consul-General, whose decision shall be final.

12. On or before the determination of his licence, the licensee shall have a right, subject to these Regulations—

(a.) In the case of mineral oil or minerals other than precious stones, to a mining licence in accordance with the terms contained in the Regulations for Mining Licences.

(b.) In the case of precious stones, to the first offer of such Mining Licence as the Consul-General may think fit to grant.

Such licence may include so much land, whether comprising the whole or a part only of the area for which the Prospecting Licence was granted, as shall not exceed the area specified with respect to Mining Licences in the annexed Schedule A.

Mining Licences.

13. Every application for a Mining Licence shall be presented to the Consul-General in writing, stating clearly the object in view, and the means by which it is proposed to effect that object. It shall further contain:—

(a.) The name, residence, and profession of the applicant;

(b.) The name of the mineral which the applicant intends to mine;

(c.) A map of the area over which the proposed licence is to extend.

14. The Consul-General may then institute any further inquiries that may appear to him to be necessary, and may appoint a day when the applicant, or his agent, and the heads of the tribe or tribes concerned, will be heard. The applicant shall show to the satisfaction of the Consul-General that he has effected honest prospecting to a sufficient extent to gauge roughly the future prospects of the concern, or, at any rate, to indicate that there is some real chance of a successful issue being attained. The rights of the tribal owners, or occupiers, of the land will be considered, and a record made of the same. The terms of the arrangements entered into between the applicant and the tribal owners, or occupiers of the land, will then be reduced to writing, and explained to both parties, their comments or objections, if any, being recorded.

Provided that when the applicant cannot appear, personally or by agent, written application may be dealt with as above.

15. When the terms of the arrangements between the applicant and the tribal owners, or occupiers, of the land have been finally settled and agreed to by the parties, the Consul-General may, if the applicant is entitled to a licence under Regulation 12, or if he thinks that the applicant should be granted a Mining Licence, grant the same in accordance with these Regulations over such one or more blocks, each not exceeding in extent the area specified in Schedule A annexed to these Regulations as he may think fit.

Provided that no Mining Licence shall be granted by the Consul-General under these Regulations, so as to cause the total area held under Mining Licences by the licensee or by those in joint interest with him, to exceed 10 square miles.

16. The term for which a Mining Licence may be granted shall not exceed thirty years, and no covenant for renewal may be inserted in the licence without the sanction of the Secretary of State.

17. Every Mining Licence shall contain such conditions and stipulations as may in each particular case seem necessary, but in every case the following conditions shall be implied, namely:—

(1.) The licensee shall pay export duty at the rate fixed for the particular mineral in respect of which the licence is granted; and if any other mineral shall be discovered by him, then export duty shall be paid therefore at such a rate, not being less than 20

per cent. of the value thereof, as the Consul-General may determine, until a Mining Licence had been obtained in respect of such mineral; but the licensee shall be entitled to require and obtain such licence for the term then unexpired of his original licence upon the terms hereinbefore mentioned in these Rules.

(2.) Neither the licensee nor any person claiming through or under him shall assign the licence, or transfer any right or interest thereunder or underlet the whole or any portion of the premises comprised in such licence, without the consent of the Consul-General;

(3.) The licensee shall commence operations within two years from the date of the grant of the licence and shall thereafter carry them on in a proper, skilful, and mining-like manner, unless prevented by unavoidable cause;

(4.) The licensee shall keep correct accounts showing the quantity and particulars of all minerals obtained from the mine and the number of persons employed therein, and also complete plans of the mine, and shall allow any officer authorized by the Consul-General at any time to examine such accounts and plans, and shall furnish the Consul-General with such information and returns in respect of the aforesaid matter as he may prescribe all information and returns obtained or furnished under this clause shall be treated as strictly confidential;

(5.) The licensee shall without delay send to the Consul-General a report of any accident which may occur at or in the premises covered by the licence, and also the finding therein of any mineral not specified in the licence;

(6.) In case of any breach on the part of the licensee or his employés of any condition contained in the licence, or of any of these Regulations, the Consul-General may determine the licence and take possession of the premises and all minerals thereon;

(7.) At the end or sooner determination of the licence, the licensee shall peacefully deliver possession of all lands occupied by him, and all mines dug therein, unless the licence be previously renewed.

General.

18. All prospecting and mining licences granted under these Regulations will be subject to the following conditions, with which it is incumbent on the licensee to comply:—

(1.) The licensee will admit the jurisdiction of the local Courts in all cases of dispute, and will abide by all orders of the Consul-General;

(2.) The licensee shall abstain from all interference with tribal or inter-tribal matters;

(3.) The licensee will not sell, give, or barter ammunition to or with the natives; and will not introduce into the premises covered by his licence any spirituous liquors, except for the use of European employés;

(4.) All plant and material shall be imported, and all minerals be exported, through a Protectorate port;

(5.) The licensee shall abide by the orders of the Consul-General with regard to the employment or non-employment of foreign labourers or workmen;

(6.) The licensee shall make such arrangements for the arming of his servants or employés, and for the protection of his works, if any, as may appear to the Consul-General to be right and proper;

(7.) The Consul-General, or any officer or servant of Government deputed by him, shall have access at all times to the land covered by the licence, and may inspect any operations being conducted;

(8.) Neither Her Majesty's Government nor the Administration of the Protectorate shall be under any liability to the licensee in the event of any raids or other interruptions by the tribes or inhabitants of the Protectorate.

19. Where any licence under these Regulations is applied for by a person who is not a British subject, the Consul-General may either require the applicant to give security by bond or deposit, and impose such special conditions as he thinks fit; or he may in his discretion refuse to grant any licence to such person.

20. These Regulations may be cited as the Somaliland Mining Regulations, 1899.

No. 100*.

Consul-General Sadier to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 13.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Berbera, September 12, 1899.

THE Mullah, Mohammed Abdullah, is now in Western Habryunis, at Odweina. I estimate his force at 500 cavalry, and possibly 1,000 infantry. The friendly tribes have collected to oppose his march, but they lack cohesion; however, as soon as our troops take the field the whole of the western country will rise against the Mullah. We require for the purpose a properly-equipped force of 300 foot, 100 cavalry, and two Maxims. The Mullah's men are not to be compared with the Aysa, and will not stand.

My plan would be to occupy Burao, and move on the enemy's rear, but it is impossible to say where he will be in a week's time. After his repulse, 25 horse and 100 foot should be left with one Maxim, intrenched at Burao, which should be occupied for some months more, and the rest of the force moved on Habrtoljaala. If we do nothing now the Mullah's influence will extend, and the people will believe that he has taken the Hinterland from the Protectorate.

I could proceed at any time to Aden, so as to arrange details with the Resident, and be able to communicate with your Lordship by telegraph.

SCHEDULE (A).

MAXIMUM Area in square miles for a Mining Licence.

	Sq. miles.
Coal	2
Oil	1
Gold or silver	$\frac{1}{4}$
Metals	$\frac{1}{8}$
Precious stones	(*)

* Will be decided by Her Majesty's Government in each case on its merits.

SCHEDULE (B).

EXPORT Duty.

Coal	1 per cent. <i>ad valorem</i> .
Metals and oil	4 " "
Gold and silver	4 " "
Precious stones	15 " "

No. 101.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Consul-General Sadler.

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, September 13, 1899.

I SANCTION your going to Aden, and sending recommendations thence, after consultation with Resident, as proposed in your telegram which I have received to-day.

No. 102.

Mr. Harrington to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 14.)

(No. 62. Confidential.)

My Lord,

London, September 8, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to report, for your Lordship's information, that I have this day addressed His Majesty the Emperor Menelek, and his Adviser, M. Ilg, respectively on the subject of the survey parties to be sent out in the Eastern Soudan, in the terms of the draft letters submitted to your Lordship for approval.

Copies of the letters are herewith inclosed.

A copy of the despatch has been sent to Cairo.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. L. HARRINGTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 102.

Mr. Harrington to King Menelek.

Your Majesty,

PROPOSALS brought home by me have been favourably received, and are under consideration, but in the meantime, and in order to settle the details of the line, the Government are anxious to know something of portions of the country of which they are wholly ignorant. For this reason they propose to send two small surveying parties to the country south of the Blue Nile and near Lake Rudolf. They will be merely for the purpose of examining the country.

It is hoped that your Majesty will give orders to the frontier officers to receive them in a friendly manner.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. L. HARRINGTON.

Inclosure 2 in No. 102.

Mr. Harrington to M. Ilg.

September 8, 1899.

My dear Ilg,

YOU may wonder why you have not heard anything definite about the Abyssinian Soudan frontier. The reason is that owing to our Agreements of 1891 and 1894 with the Italian Government we have to await Italy's remarks on the King's proposals. Till this has been done no official declaration can be made, but I am allowed privately to let the King and you know that the King's proposals have been very favourably received, and will probably be accepted as a whole, subject to the arrangement of some minor details, which have no material effect upon the general line laid down.

As regards the southern boundary, we are waiting remarks from the authorities in British East Africa.

I have addressed the King officially about our sending survey parties to map all the country south of Rosaires. The present maps are so unreliable that we must have exact information as to the country before we can commence a delimitation on the ground.

I trust to you to explain the necessity of accurate maps to the King.

Should the latter wish to send a couple of Abyssinian officers with the parties when they are in the neighbourhood of the proposed frontier, there is no objection to His Majesty doing so on the part of Her Majesty's Government.

Will you kindly communicate the contents of this letter to the King.

Yours sincerely,
(Signed) J. L. HARRINGTON.

No. 103.

Mr. Harrington to Foreign Office.—(Received September 14.)

(No. 63.)

Sir,

London, September 13, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to submit a Statement showing the total expenditure of my Mission to the 21st July, 1899.

The expenditure for ten and a-half months was 4,417*l.* 7*s.* 11*d.*

In submitting an Estimate for my return, it has to be borne in mind that the bulk of my expenditure under messengers, contingencies, purchase of house and transport is on a dollar basis, and that at the present moment exchange is about 10 dollars to the £, and may become less.

Consequently it is necessary that some margin should be allowed for this.

The Estimate is calculated for ten months. Where remarks are necessary they have been added at the foot of the Estimate.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. L. HARRINGTON.

Inclosure 1 in No. 103.

STATEMENT showing the Expenditure down to July 21, 1899, against the Estimate.

	Estimate for nine months.	Expenditure during ten and a-half months, to the 21st July, 1899.
Pay—		
Mr. Harrington, ...	900 rupees a-month ..	Charged as estimated.
Mr. Harrington, travelling, &c., allowance ..	2 <i>l.</i> a-day	" "
Doctor	20 <i>l.</i> a-month	15 <i>l.</i> charged.
First Interpreter	10 <i>l.</i> "	Charged as estimated.
Second "	80 dollars a-month ..	" "
Escort messengers and contingencies ..	£ s. d. 621 0 0	£ s. d. 582 6 5½
Outfits	415 0 0	395 1 1
Residence—		
Purchase of house	1,000 0 0	640 16 0
Furniture	300 0 0	157 18 4
Presents	500 0 0	330 17 7
Transport	800 0 0	690 5 7½

NOTE.—In originally estimating expenditure on a dollar basis, dollar was calculated at 12 to the £, whereas it has averaged about 11.

The amount estimated to meet expenditure during nine months, and approved by the Treasury, was 5,106*l.* The expenditure for ten and a-half months was 4,417*l.* 7*s.* 11*d.*

(Signed)

J. L. HARRINGTON, *Captain.*

Inclosure 2 in No. 103.

ESTIMATE for Mr. Harrington's Mission to Abyssinia, 1899-1900.

Probable duration, ten months.

	£	s.	d.
Captain Harrington, 900 rupees a-month and compensation ..	650	0	0
Travelling allowance, ten months at 2 <i>l.</i> 10 <i>s.</i> a-day ..	750	0	0
(This allowance has been increased by 10 <i>s.</i> a-day to cover the expenses of an assistant)			
Doctor, ten months at 15 <i>l.</i> a-month ..	150	0	0
First Interpreter, ten months at 10 <i>l.</i> a-month ..	100	0	0
Second Interpreter, ten months at 80 dollars a-month ..	80	0	0
Escort messengers and incidental expenditure ..	650	0	0
Telegrams ..	150	0	0
Outfits (see Remarks below)—	£	s.	d.
Captain Harrington ..	200	0	0
Doctor ..	20	0	0
Interpreter ..	20	0	0
Furniture for ditto ..	16	0	0
Medicines ..	50	0	0
	306	0	0
Residence—			
Purchase of house ..	500	0	0
Furniture—			
Unexpected balance ..	142	1	8
Presents ..	500	0	0
Transport ..	750	0	0
Contingencies ..	245	0	0
Expenses of an assistant—			
Pay of assistant, at 400 <i>l.</i> a-year, for ten months ..	337	0	0
Outfit for ditto ..	100	0	0
Ditto transport ..	100	0	0
Total ..	5,500	1	8

Remarks.

Renewal of Tents, Bedding, Clothes for Servants, &c.—Last year's outfit is practically useless, as self and establishment were under canvas the whole year. The item 16*l.* furniture for interpreter was not expended last year, he being provided with kit by me.

Medicines.—A further supply required.

Residence.—Purchase of house; original estimate was 12,000 dollars, actual expenditure so far has been about 7,000 dollars, but actual balance in hand from original grant to complete is 359*l.* 4*s.* 0*d.*, which at present represents about 3,500 dollars, owing to fall in exchange. A further increase of 1,500 dollars is asked for, with which I hope to complete the Residency, and also to provide fire extinguishing appliances, which are absolutely necessary.

Furniture.—Amount is unexpended balance of original grant.

Presents.—Next year it will be necessary to make presents to the Abuna, the Rases, and important Chiefs, who were ignored last year.

(Signed)

J. L. HARRINGTON, *Captain.*

No. 104.

Mr. Harrington to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 16.)

(No. 64.)

My Lord,

London, September 15, 1899.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 36 of 1899, I have the honour to report, for your Lordship's information, that on my arrival at Gildessa the 1st July last, I ascertained that no orders had been given regarding the levy of taxes on Somali camel owners.

I directed Her Britannic Majesty's Consular Agent at Harrar to invite M. Ilg's attention by telephone to the matter, and at the same time wrote in strong terms privately to M. Ilg about the King's disregard of his promise.

I have received M. Ilg's reply, and inclose an extract from his letter for your Lordship's information.

From this it will be seen that the matter can now be arranged by the Somali Coast authorities.

A copy of this despatch has been sent to the Consul-General, Somali Coast, to enable him to take action in the matter.

A copy has also been sent, for his information, to Her Britannic Majesty's Consular Agent, Harrar.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. L. HARRINGTON.

Inclosure in No. 104.

M. Ilg to Mr. Harrington.

(Extrait.)

Le 12 Juillet, 1899.

J'AI également soumis à Sa Majesté la réclamation relativement aux taxes qui sont prélevées des chameliers, venant de ou allant à Zaïla, que vous m'avez fait transmettre par M. Gerolimato. Sa Majesté s'est informé pourquoi les autorités de Guellessa n'avait pas exécuté ses ordres, et elles ont répondu que maintenant tous les Somalis, notamment ceux qui avaient été compromis dans les différents pillages des caravanes, ayant appris que les Somalis sous le Protectorat Anglais ne paieraient pas la taxe, prétendent aujourd'hui aussi d'être tous de vos protégés. Maintenant Sa Majesté m'a chargé de vous dire qu'il aimerait beaucoup si vous vouliez faire le nécessaire que tous les Somalis de votre Protectorat qui n'étaient pas compromis dans les pillages, portent avec eux en venant avec des marchandises de Zaïla une note des autorités de Zaïla qui indiquerait le nombre des chameaux qui doivent être exempt de taxes. Comme la route de Bia Kaboba à Guellessa est la même pour les caravanes de Djibouti comme celles venant de Zaïla, c'est très difficile de savoir si les chameliers viennent réellement de Zaïla et non de Djibouti, comme vous aviez vous-même à son temps. Il serait peut-être le plus simple si les autorités de Zaïla toucheraient la taxe d'avance de tous les Somalis noirs qui partent de Zaïla, en tiennent compte au Gouvernement Abyssin, et délivreraient alors des bulletins que les chameliers remettraient à leur arrivée à Guellessa aux autorités Abyssines. Il ne faut pas oublier que les Issas noirs ne diront jamais qu'ils sont de cette tribu aux Abyssins, tandis que les autorités Anglaises à Zaïla peuvent s'en rendre compte beaucoup plus facilement, le service des indigènes chez vous étant bien mieux organisé.

No. 105.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 16.)

(No. 71. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Camp, Jerato, August 31, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to submit the following report as explanatory of my telegram of this days' date.

Shortly before leaving Hargaisa on the 21st instant reports began to reach me that the Mullah Muhammad Abdullah was contemplating a move in the direction of

Burao. Much weight was not, however, attached to these reports, more especially as the Eastern Habr Yunis tribes about Burao had lately written in to make their peace with the Administration. At the same time I thought it desirable to get into closer communication with Berbera so as to be in a better position to sift the news from the Eastern districts, though when I left Hargaisa it was more with the impression that I should receive the submission of the tribes about Burao than that I should hear of any actual advance by the Mullah in that direction.

On the 25th instant the Habr Yunis came into my camp at Dibbis and reported that the Mullah had advanced with a force from Bohotele and had looted the eastern sections of their tribe in the plains somewhere to the south-west of Burao, but they could give no particulars, nor could they say where the Mullah and his force actually were. At Dibbis I had to halt on the 26th to allow my mails which had missed me on the road to catch me up. In the meanwhile further news was brought in by the Habr Yunis that the Mullah was advancing against them in the direction of Odweina at the instigation of Sultan Nur to enforce their submission to him, and it was reported that Haji Musa, the Mullah of Hahiya, was collecting the tribes to defend that place, and that he was coming to me as soon as the arrangements were completed.

On the 26th I received news from Berbera that the Mullah had written a letter to Burao to say that he was arriving there with a large force, and that the wells were to be fenced off for him. It did not seem to be known then in Berbera whether he was actually moving on Burao or not. At the same time further reports were brought in by the Habr Yunis that the Mullah was actually at Burao and was advancing to Odweina. I told the Habr Yunis to collect their men to hold Odweina and its water supply, and that I was proceeding to Jerato, where I would arrange to get them help from the hill tribes and the Habr Awal.

On my arrival here on the 27th I commenced to call in the neighbouring tribes to assist the Habr Yunis in checking the Mullah's advance on Odweina, and I had it in contemplation, should I be able to collect a sufficient force of friendlies, and an advance on Odweina was actually made, to proceed with them in that direction, as I considered it improbable that if left to themselves they would offer any effective opposition. Before, however, coming to any decision on this point I dispatched the Ressaldar of the Camel Corps with a party of Sowars to Odweina to reconnoitre. The reports he brought me back from there this morning, and the reports which have reached me during the last two days from the surrounding tribes and from the direction of Sheikh, show that the movement has a wider scope than the mere coercing of the Habr Yunis to accept Sultan Nur, and that it would be useless to help the Habr Yunis to hold the water at Odweina. So far from their being any Habr Yunis force at Odweina the place is deserted, the tribes having all fled westwards, and agents of the Mullah were there arranging for his accommodation in the neighbouring village of Berato.

The position as I now know it is as follows. This Mullah is actually at Burao with a force from the Dolbahanta and the Ogaden which, from the various accounts received, may be put down at 1,500 men, with a large proportion of horse. It is not believed that he has more than forty or fifty rifles with him. He has declared himself the Mahdi; this is now not believed in by his followers, who know that his object is to gain possession of the country. He has sent men to all the Habr Toljaala tribes to join him at Burao; it is not known how far this call will be responded to but it is certain that the tribes in the vicinity who do not join him will be looted, and will probably do so under compulsion. A noticeable fact is that part of his force consists of men from the Ogaden, the Ibrahim, and Ba Awadle tribes, whose Sultans, with two Sultans from the Dolbahanta and Sultan Nur, are said to be in his camp. Both from Odweina and Berbera I hear rumours of a possible advance against Berbera. I cannot yet say what truth there may be in these rumours, but it is known that he has raided up to near the Shiekh Pass, and, as I have noted in previous despatches, it is impossible to say what a fanatic of this description may not take it into his head to attempt if he finds the tribes willing to obey his summons; I have, however, thought the position sufficiently serious to warrant the suggestion in my telegram of to-day that it would be desirable for Berbera to be watched by a man-of-war.

There can be no doubt that this move on Burao under the circumstances reported is an actively hostile movement, and the time has come when we must meet this movement by force. We could afford to let this Mullah remain in openly veiled revolt for a time at Bohotele, on the confines of our Protectorate, we cannot afford to

allow him to menace our coast towns and our supremacy over the Protectorate, which he is now in fact doing.

I have suggested the employment of 100 mounted men and 300 foot. This number I consider sufficient to overcome all opposition, with the co-operation of levies which could be got from the friendly Habr Awal tribes. Whatever force the Mullah may have collected, I do not believe he will stand once an expedition of regular troops is dispatched against him. But without such an expedition he will hold his ground at Burao and work incalculable damage in the Protectorate, and practically stop its administration.

I am unable to indicate as yet more than roughly what line our operations should take, so much will depend on the Mullah's own movements. I would not at present operate beyond Burao, or at the furthest Ber, at both of which places the water supply is abundant and good. The Mullah must at all costs be turned out of Burao, and a post established there. Should he move to the west he will have to be driven back; the country here is known to us, water generally is procurable, and we could count on as much assistance from the Habr Awal as we should require; offers of such assistance were freely made to me at Hargaisa should there be any necessity to avail myself of them.

As I close this report information has just come in that the religious community at the Sheikh Pass have been looted by the Mullah's followers, who afterwards retired towards Burao.

I am now returning as rapidly as possible to Berbera.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

P.S.—A copy of this report is being sent to Cairo.

J. H. S.

No. 106.

Lord Currie to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 16.)

(No. 184.)

My Lord,

Turin, September 14, 1899.

IN accordance with the instruction conveyed to me in your Lordship's despatch No. 127 of the 8th instant, I have this day communicated to M. Visconti-Venosta a copy of the map showing the proposals made by the Emperor Menelek in regard to the line of frontier between Abyssinia and the Soudan. I at the same time informed his Excellency that no definite answer had been returned to these proposals, and that Her Majesty's Government were desirous of learning the views of the Italian Government before coming to a decision in regard to them.

M. Visconti-Venosta, after requesting me to convey his thanks to Her Majesty's Government for this communication, observed that, so far as the line to the south of Tomat was concerned, it did not now directly affect Italian interests, but he was bound, as a matter of form, to reserve the position of Italy arising out of the Protocol of 1891. He trusted that, as a point of international right, no modification of that arrangement would be agreed to by Her Majesty's Government without a previous understanding with the Italian Government, either by an exchange of notes or in such other form as might be thought advisable. With regard to the territory lying to the north-west of a line drawn from Tomat to Todluk the case was different; that territory was claimed by Italy as part of the Colony of Erythræa, and was not retroceded with Kassala. The Italian Government, however, would be most unwilling to cause difficulties to Her Majesty's Government in regard to the frontier, and they would be quite ready to enter into negotiations as to the line it should follow.

I pointed out to his Excellency that, although the region in question was not in itself of any great value, it was very important that the tribes occupying it should be under control, and that it was doubtful whether the Italian authorities in Erythræa were in a position to make their influence felt so far to the west of Keren, which appeared to be the nearest port held by them.

His Excellency was not able to state positively whether this was the case or not, but he said that he would call for further reports, and meanwhile he suggested that the matter should be considered after our return to Rome next month.

I did not fail to call his Excellency's attention to the claims put forward by Abyssinia to the west of the line of the Protocol of 1891, and to the provision in the Separate Protocol of the 15th April, 1891, for the reoccupation by Egypt of any territory from which Italy might withdraw.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CURRIE.

No. 107.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 18.)

(No. 70.)

My Lord,

Camp, Dibbis, August 27, 1899.

IN continuation of my despatch No. 64 of the 8th instant, I have the honour to report that I have received a reply from the Acting Governor of Harrar, in which he thanks me for restraining the Aidagalleh from retaliating on the Rer Ali and Rer Haroun Ogaden tribes, and informs me that he was at once sending special messengers to those tribes to effect the restoration of the raided property.

By the same messenger I received a letter from Mr. Gerolimato, in which he tells me that Dejjamach Berato has been appointed Governor of the Ogaden, and that he proposes to make a station near the Rer Ali so as to control the actions of that tribe and the Rer Haroun. Dejjamach Berato further promises Mr. Gerolimato that, after the property looted in the late raids is restored, he would summon a meeting of the Elders of the two Ogaden tribes and advise them to settle up their differences and make peace with our tribes.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

P.S.—A copy of this despatch and of despatch No. 64 is being sent to Cairo.
J. H. S.

No. 108.

War Office to Foreign Office.—(Received September 18.)

(Confidential.)

Sir,

War Office, September 18, 1899.

IN reply to your letter of the 4th instant, relating to the trouble now being caused in the interior of the Somaliland Protectorate by a fanatical Mullah, I am directed by the Secretary of State for War to acquaint you, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, that, in conjunction with his military advisers, his Lordship has carefully considered the papers which formed the inclosures of the letter under reply, together with the further telegrams which have since been received from the Foreign Office on the subject. From these later telegrams Lord Lansdowne gathers that the situation is somewhat less alarming than it was supposed to be, and he therefore thinks that, before any military steps are authorized, it would be desirable to ascertain from Consul-General Sadler whether, in his opinion, it has not so far altered as to render such steps no longer necessary.

In the event of a reply being received from the Consul-General to the effect that military action cannot be avoided without a danger of the disturbance developing into a movement of a more serious character, Lord Lansdowne is distinctly of opinion, firstly, that such action should be taken without delay, more especially as, at this season of the year, the supply of water in that part of Somaliland to the north of the Haud is good, grass is abundant in many places, and the country is well suited for military operations; and, secondly, that the strength of the force employed should be sufficient to insure a successful issue.

Assuming repressive measures to be inevitable, his Lordship is of opinion—

1. That, since it is always undesirable to reduce the garrisons of our coaling stations, the troops to be employed should be drawn from India and not from the Aden garrison.

2. That the force from India should consist of a specially selected native cavalry regiment and four companies of native infantry, together with the two machine-guns, which are now on their way out from this country.

The employment of cavalry in sufficient numbers will greatly increase the chance of capturing the Mullah himself, clearly the main object to be kept in view. The enemy's force would probably be mostly cavalry, and, therefore, an equally mobile force is necessary.

The infantry would be useful for holding strategical points or religious centres, such as Hargeisa or Sheikh.

[1554]

3. That on the arrival at Berbera of the above-mentioned force, the 200 infantry, which had been sent there from Aden, might revert to their proper duties.

4. That the chief command of the force should be given to a fully-qualified officer in active military employment, who, if possible, has had previous experience in the sort of service required, and that this officer should, as far as possible, be allowed a free hand by the Consul-General.

5. That it might be inadvisable for military reasons should assistance be offered by Abyssinia, to allow Abyssinian troops to operate within the limits of the Protectorate. It is not impossible that their presence might be misunderstood by the Ogaden Arabs and other tribes, and, consequently, that further trouble might be produced in regions where at present none exists. If, for political reasons, it should be considered desirable by Her Majesty's Government to accept assistance from Abyssinia, a careful patrol of the frontier with a view to the capture of the Mullah should be attempted to cross it would, in the opinion of Lord Lansdowne, be the most convenient form which it could take.

For obvious reasons the Secretary of State does not venture to define the nature of the operations to be undertaken by such an expeditionary force. Lord Lansdowne apprehends that the course to be followed would entirely depend on the situation existing when the force arrived at Berbera, and that, in consequence, the strategical considerations must be left for the decision of the Military Commander after consultation with the Consul-General.

I am, &c.
(Signed) G. FLEETWOOD WILSON.

No. 109.

The Law Officers of the Crown to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 19.)

My Lord,

Royal Courts of Justice, September 18, 1899.

WE were honoured with your Lordship's commands signified in Sir Thomas Sanderson's letter of the 12th ultimo, transmitting, for our consideration and approval, the inclosed draft of an Order in Council for the administration of justice in the territories comprised in the Somaliland Protectorate, which had recently been transferred by the Government of India to the Imperial Government.

We have taken the matter into our consideration, and, in obedience to your Lordship's commands, have the honour to

Report—

That, in our opinion, the draft Order in Council as initialled by us may properly be submitted to the Queen in Council for the approval of Her Majesty.

We have, &c.
(Signed) RICHARD E. WEBSTER.
ROBERT B. FINLAY.

Annex.

SOMALILAND.

Draft Order in Council.

WHEREAS by Treaty, grant, usage, sufferance, and other lawful means, Her Majesty the Queen has power and jurisdiction with the territories comprised within the limits of this Order:

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, by virtue, and in exercise of the powers on this behalf by "The Foreign Jurisdiction Act, 1890," or otherwise, in Her Majesty vested, is pleased, by and with the advice of her Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, as followed:—

PART I.—*Preliminary.*

1. This Order may be cited as "The Somaliland Order in Council, 1899."

The limits of this Order are the territories comprised in the Somaliland Protectorate, which includes the territories bounded on the north by the Gulf of Aden, on the east and south by the territories under the Protectorate of Italy, and on the west by the territories of the Emperor of Ethiopia, and the French Protectorate of Jibuti.

If Her Majesty is pleased to direct that any other territories, for the time being under the protection of Her Majesty, shall form part of the Somaliland Protectorate, those territories shall, from and after a date fixed by an order of the Secretary of State, be deemed to be within the limits of this Order.

2. This Order is divided into Parts as follows :—

Part I. Preliminary.

Part II. Application and effect of Order.

Part III. Application of law of British India and of the United Kingdom.

Part IV. Criminal matters.

Part V. Civil matters.

Part VI. Miscellaneous.

3. In this Order—

(i.) "The Protectorate" means the territories for the time being comprised in Her Majesty's Somaliland Protectorate;

(ii.) "The Secretary of State" means one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State;

(iii.) "The Consul-General" means Her Majesty's Consul-General for the territories comprised within the limits of this Order, including a person acting temporarily, with the approval of the Secretary of State, as or for the Consul-General;

(iv.) "British subject" includes a British protected person, that is to say, a person who either (a) is a native of any Protectorate of Her Majesty beyond Africa and Arabia, and is for the time being in the Somaliland Protectorate, or (b) by virtue of "The Foreign Jurisdiction Act, 1890," or otherwise enjoys Her Majesty's protection in the Protectorate;

(v.) "Resident" means having a fixed place of abode in the Protectorate;

(vi.) "Native" means any person who is not a British subject, as hereinbefore defined, or of European or American race or parentage;

(vii.) "Foreigner" means a subject or citizen of a State in amity with Her Majesty, not being a native, as hereinbefore defined;

(viii.) "Protectorate Court" means the Court held by the Consul-General, or other Court exercising the principal civil and criminal jurisdiction in the Protectorate;

(ix.) "The Court" means the Protectorate Court and any Court subordinate thereto as the case may be;

(x.) "Treaty" includes any Convention, Agreement, or Arrangement with any State or Government, King, Chief, people, or tribe, made by or on behalf of Her Majesty, or to the benefits of which Her Majesty has succeeded;

(xi.) "Administration" means (unless a contrary intention appears from the context) letters of administration, including the same with will annexed, or granted for special or limited purposes, or limited in duration;

(xii.) "Ship" includes any vessel used in navigation, however propelled with her tackle, furniture, and apparel, and any boat or other craft;

(xiii.) "Offence" means any act or omission made punishable by any law for the time being in force;

(xiv.) "Imprisonment" means imprisonment of either description, as defined in the Indian Penal Code;

(xv.) "Month" means calendar month;

(xvi.) "Will" means will, codicil, or other testamentary instrument;

(xvii.) "Person" includes Corporation;

(xviii.) Words importing the plural or the singular may be construed as referring to one person or thing, or to more than one person or thing, and words importing the masculine as referring to females (as the case may require).

4.—(1.) Where this Order confers a power or imposes a duty, the power may be exercised and the duty shall be performed from time to time as occasion requires.

(2.) Where this Order confers a power or imposes a duty on the holder of an office, then, unless a contrary intention appears, the power may be exercised and the duty shall be performed by the holder of the office for the time being, or by a person duly appointed to act for him.

(3.) Where this Order confers a power to make Rules, Regulations, or Orders, the power shall be construed as including a power, exercisable in the like manner and subject to the like approval and conditions (if any) to rescind, revoke, amend, or vary the Rules, Regulations, or Orders.

(4.) Expressions defined in this Order shall have the same respective meanings in any Rules, Regulations, or Orders made under this Order unless other provision is made or the context otherwise requires.

PART II.—*Application and Effect of Order.*

5. The powers conferred by this Order shall extend to the persons and matters following in so far as by Treaty, grant, usage, sufferance, or other lawful means, Her Majesty has jurisdiction in relation to such persons and matters, that is to say: (a) British subjects; (b) foreigners; (c) the property and all personal or proprietary rights and liabilities in the Protectorate of British subjects and foreigners, including ships with their boats, and the persons and property on board thereof, or belonging thereto; and (d) natives, in the cases and according to the conditions specified in this Order, and not otherwise.

Provided that jurisdiction over any foreign ships under this Article shall not be exercised otherwise than according to the practice of the High Court in England in the exercise of jurisdiction over foreign ships.

6. All Her Majesty's jurisdiction exercisable in the Protectorate, for the hearing and determination of suits, or for the maintenance of order, or for the control or administration of persons or property, or in relation thereto, shall be exercised under and according to the provisions of this Order, so far as such jurisdiction relates to British subjects and foreigners. Jurisdiction over natives shall be exercised only in such matters and to such extent as the Court in its discretion thinks fit.

PART III.—*Application of Law of British India and of the United Kingdom.*

7.—(a.) Subject to the other provisions of this Order, and to any Treaties for the time being in force relating to the Protectorate, Her Majesty's criminal and civil jurisdiction in the Protectorate shall, so far as circumstances admit, be exercised on the principles of, and in conformity with, the enactments for the time being applicable as hereinafter mentioned of the Governor-General of India in Council, and of the Governor of Bombay in Council, and according to the course of procedure and practice observed by and before the Courts in the Presidency of Bombay beyond the limits of the ordinary original jurisdiction of the High Court of Judicature at Bombay according to their respective jurisdiction and authority, and so far as such enactments, procedure, and practice are inapplicable, shall be exercised under, and in accordance with, the common and Statute law of England.

(b.) The enactments mentioned in the Schedule to this Order are hereby made applicable to the Protectorate as from the commencement of this Order.

(c.) Any other existing or future enactments of the Governor-General of India in Council, or of the Governor of Bombay in Council, shall also be applicable to the Protectorate, but shall not come into operation until such times as may, in the case of any of such enactments respectively, be fixed by the Secretary of State.

(d.) Any Act of the Governor-General of India in Council, or of the Governor of Bombay in Council, whether passed before or after the commencement of this Order, amending or substituted for any Act of either of those Legislatures which is by or under this Order made applicable to and brought into operation in the Protectorate, shall, subject to the provisions of this Article, also apply to the Protectorate.

(e.) For the purpose of facilitating the application of any such enactments as before mentioned—

(i.) The Court may construe any such enactment, with such alterations not affecting the substance, as may be necessary or proper to adapt the same to the matter before the Court;

(ii.) The Secretary of State may by order direct by what authority any jurisdiction, powers, or duties incident to the operation of any such enactment, and for the exercise or performance of which no convenient provision has been otherwise made, shall be exercised or performed;

(iii.) The Secretary of State may by order modify, for the purposes of this Order, any provision of any of the said enactments, or of any amending or substituted enactment;

(iv.) Any order of the Secretary of State made in pursuance of this Article shall be published in the Protectorate and in India, in such manner as he directs, and shall have effect as from a date to be specified in the order.

8. The enactments described in the first Schedule to "The Foreign Jurisdiction Act, 1890," shall apply to the Protectorate as if it were a British Colony or possession, but subject to the provisions of this Order and to the exceptions, adaptations, and modifications following, that is to say:—

(i.) The Consul-General is hereby substituted for the Governor of a Colony or British possession, and the Protectorate Court is hereby substituted for a Superior Court or Supreme Court and for a Magistrate or Justice of the Peace of a Colony or British possession.

(ii.) For the portions of the Merchant Shipping Acts, 1854 and 1867, referred to in the said Schedule, shall be substituted Part XIII of "The Merchant Shipping Act, 1894."

(iii.) In section 51 of "The Conveyancing (Scotland) Act, 1874," and any enactment for the time being in force amending the same, the Protectorate Court is substituted for a Court of Probate in a Colony.

(iv.) With respect to "The Fugitive Offenders Act, 1881":—

(a.) So much of the 4th and 5th sections of the said Act as relates to sending a report of the issue of a warrant, together with the information, or a copy thereof, or to the sending of a certificate of committal and report of a case, or to the information to be given by a Magistrate to a fugitive, shall be excepted, and in lieu of such information the person acting as the Magistrate shall inform the fugitive that in the British possession or Protectorate to which he may be conveyed he has the right to apply for a writ of *habeas corpus* or other like process.

(b.) So much of the 6th section of the said Act as requires the expiration of fifteen days before issue of warrant shall be excepted.

(c.) The Consul-General shall not be bound to return a fugitive offender to a British possession unless satisfied that the proceedings to obtain his return are taken with the consent of the Governor of that possession.

(d.) For the purposes of Part II of the said Act, the Protectorate, Aden, Zanzibar, the East Africa and Uganda Protectorates, and British India shall be deemed to be one group of British possessions.

9. The Secretary of State may, by order published in such manner as he directs, declare that any of the Laws or Ordinances for the time being in force in any British possession, and not inconsistent with this Order, shall have effect, and be administered in the Protectorate, with such modifications or adaptations as may be necessary; and thereupon such Laws or Ordinances as so modified or adapted shall have effect as if they had been applied by this Order.

PART IV.—*Criminal Matters.*

10. Subject to the other provisions of this Order, the Code of Criminal Procedure and the other enactments relating to the administration of criminal justice in India, for the time being applicable to the Protectorate, shall have effect as if the Protectorate were a Presidency of India.

For the purposes of those enactments—

(a.) The Consul-General shall hold and form a Court, to be called the Protectorate Court, which shall have all the powers of a Sessions Court in India; and

(b.) The Protectorate Court shall in relation to all Courts within the Protectorate have the same appellate jurisdiction and the same powers of revision as are possessed by a High Court in India; and

(c.) The powers both of the Governor-General in Council and of the Local Government under those enactments shall be exercisable by the Secretary of State, or, with his previous or subsequent assent, by the Consul-General.

11. If any person smuggles or imports into or exports from the Protectorate any goods whereon any duty is charged or payable to the Government of the Protectorate, with intent to evade payment of the duty, he shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two months, or with fine which may extend to 1,000 rupees, or with both.

12. Any act which if done in British India would be an offence against the law for the time being in force in British India relating to trade-marks, merchandize marks, copyright, designs, or inventions, shall, if done in the Protectorate, be an offence punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two months, or with a fine which may extend to 1,000 rupees, or with both.

13.—(1.) In cases of murder or culpable homicide, if either the death or the criminal act which wholly or partly caused the death happened in the Protectorate, a Court acting under this Order shall have the like jurisdiction over any person charged either as a principal offender or as an abettor, as if both the criminal act and the death had happened in the Protectorate.

(2.) In the case of any offence committed on the high seas, or within the Admiralty jurisdiction, by any person who at the time of committing such offence was on board a British ship, or by any British subject on board a foreign ship to which he did not belong, a Court acting under this Order shall have jurisdiction as if the offence had been committed within the Protectorate.

(3.) In cases tried under this Article no different sentence can be passed from the sentence which could be passed in England if the offence were tried there.

14. When a sentence of death has been passed by the Protectorate Court the Consul-General shall consider whether it is or is not desirable that the sentence should be reconsidered by the Secretary of State.

If he considers that it is so desirable, he shall append to the Minutes a certificate under his hand to that effect, together with such observations as he may think fit, and shall, at the earliest opportunity, transmit the same to the Secretary of State.

If he considers that it is not so desirable, he shall, not sooner than seven days after the passing of the sentence, certify on the Minutes his confirmation of the sentence by writing under his hand.

The Secretary of State may confirm or remit or commute the sentence.

A sentence of death shall not be carried into effect until it is confirmed by the Consul-General or the Secretary of State, as provided in this Article, but upon such confirmation shall be carried into effect according to law.

When the Secretary of State commutes a sentence, the commuted sentence shall be carried into effect as if the Protectorate Court had passed, and had authority to pass, that sentence.

15.—(a.) The Consul-General may, if he thinks fit, by general order, prescribe the manner in which, and the places in the Protectorate at which, sentences of imprisonment are to be carried into execution.

(b.) The Consul-General may, if he thinks fit, in any case, by warrant under his hand and official seal, cause an offender convicted and sentenced to imprisonment before the Court to be sent and removed to, and imprisoned in, any place either in the Protectorate or in Aden.

16. Where an offender convicted before the Court is sentenced to imprisonment, and the Consul-General, proceeding under section 7 of "The Foreign Jurisdiction Act, 1890," authority in that behalf being hereby given to him, considers it expedient that the sentence should be carried into effect within Her Majesty's dominions, the place shall be a place in some part of Her Majesty's dominions out of the United Kingdom, the Government whereof consents that offenders may be sent thither under this Article.

17.—(1.) Where it is shown by evidence on oath, to the satisfaction of the Consul-General that any person subject to this Order has committed, or is about to commit, an offence against this Order or is otherwise conducting himself so as to be dangerous to peace and good order in the Protectorate, or is endeavouring to excite enmity between the people of the Protectorate and Her Majesty, or is intriguing against Her Majesty's power and authority in the Protectorate, the Consul-General may, if he thinks fit, by order under his hand and official seal, prohibit that person from being in the Protectorate, during any time therein specified, not exceeding two years, or may order him to be deported in manner provided by this Order.

(2.) If the person named in the order of prohibition fails to obey, or acts in contravention of the order—

(i.) He shall be guilty of an offence against this Order, and, on conviction thereof, shall be liable to imprisonment for any term not exceeding two years, without prejudice to the operation of the order of prohibition.

(ii.) Whether the offender has been convicted of, or imprisoned for, that offence or not, the Consul-General may, if he thinks fit, order him to be deported.

(3.) The Consul-General, by order under his hand and official seal, may vary any order of prohibition (not extending the duration thereof), and may at any time revoke the same.

(4.) The Consul-General shall forthwith report to the Secretary of State every order made by him under this Article, and the grounds thereof, and the proceedings thereunder.

18.—(a.) Where a person is convicted of an offence, the Court before which he is convicted may, if it thinks fit, require him to give security to the satisfaction of the Court for his future good behaviour, and for that purpose may, if it thinks fit, cause him to come or be brought before the Court.

(b.) If any person required by an order under this Article, or under the law relating to criminal procedure for the time being in force, to give security for good behaviour or for keeping the peace, fails to do so, the Court may, if it thinks fit, order that he be deported from the Protectorate.

(c.) Any order of deportation not made by the Consul-General must be approved by him.

19.—(a.) Any person ordered to be deported under this Order shall be, as soon as practicable, and in the case of a person convicted, either after execution of the sentence, or while it is in course of execution, removed in custody, under the warrant of the Consul-General, to the place named in the warrant and there discharged from custody.

(b.) The place shall be a place in that part (if any) of Her Majesty's dominions out of the United Kingdom to which the person belongs, or in some other part of those dominions, the Government whereof consents to the reception therein of persons deported under this order or a place under the Protectorate of Her Majesty, or in the country out of Her Majesty's dominions to which the person belongs.

(c.) The Court, on making an order of deportation, may, if it thinks fit, order the person to be deported to pay all or any part of the expenses of his deportation, to be fixed by the Court in the order.

(d.) The Consul-General shall forthwith report to the Secretary of State every order of deportation made under this Order, and the grounds thereof, and the proceedings thereunder.

(e.) If a person deported under this Order returns to the Protectorate without permission in writing of the Consul-General or Secretary of State, he shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two months, or with a fine which may extend to 1,000 rupees, or with both.

(f.) He shall also be liable to be again deported under the original or a new order, and a fresh warrant of the Consul-General.

(g.) The Consul-General may at any time revoke or vary any order or warrant of deportation.

20.—(a.) Where, under this Order, a person is to be sent or removed, or deported from the Protectorate, he shall, by warrant of the Consul-General under his hand and seal, be detained, if necessary, in custody, or in prison, until a fit opportunity for his removal or deportation occurs, and then, if he is to be deported beyond sea, be put on board one of Her Majesty's vessels of war, or, if none is available, then on board some other British or other fit vessel.

(b.) The warrant of the Consul-General shall be sufficient authority to the person to whom it is directed or delivered for execution, and to the Commander or master of the vessel, to receive and detain the person therein named, in the manner therein prescribed, and to send or remove and carry him to the place therein named, according to the warrant.

(c.) In case of sending or removal for any purpose other than deportation, the warrant of the Consul-General shall be issued in duplicate, and the person executing it shall, as soon as practicable after his arrival at the place therein named, deliver, according to the warrant, with one of the duplicates of the warrant, to a constable, or proper officer of police, or keeper of a prison, or other proper authority or person there, the person named in the warrant, to be

produced on the order of the proper Court or authority there, or to be otherwise dealt with according to law.

21. The Consul-General, and every officer for the time being exercising the powers of a Magistrate, shall have in and for the Protectorate, province, or district, as the case may be, all the power and jurisdiction appertaining to the office of a Justice of the Peace.

22. A sentence of imprisonment under this Order, or any Regulations made under this Order, may be with or without hard labour, in the discretion of the Court, unless it is expressed to be without hard labour.

PART V.—*Civil Matters.*

23. Subject to the other provisions of this Order, the Code of Civil Procedure, "The Bombay Civil Courts Act, 1869," and the other enactments relating to the administration of civil justice for the time being applicable to the Protectorate, shall have effect as if the Protectorate were the Presidency of Bombay.

(a.) For the purposes of these enactments the Protectorate Court shall be deemed to be the High Court, and the Court authorized to hear appeals from and to revise the decisions of District Courts;

(b.) District Courts shall be established under the provisions of "The Bombay Civil Courts Act, 1869," as applied by this Order; and

(c.) The powers both of the Governor-General in Council and the Local Government under those enactments shall be exercisable by the Secretary of State, or, with his previous or subsequent assent, by the Consul-General.

24. The following enactments of "The Colonial Courts of Admiralty Act, 1890," that is to say, section 2, sub-sections (2) to (4), sections 5 and 6, section 16, sub-section (3), shall apply to the Protectorate Court as if in the said sections the said Court were mentioned in lieu of a Colonial Court of Admiralty, and the Protectorate were referred to in lieu of a British possession.

25.—(a.) Every District Court shall endeavour to obtain, as early as may be, notice of the death of every British subject or foreigner dying in the Protectorate leaving property to be administered, and all such information as may serve to guide the Court with respect to the securing and administration of his property.

(b.) On receiving notice of the death of such a person, the Court shall put up a Notice thereof at the Court-house, and shall keep the same there until probate or administration is granted, or, where it appears to the Court that probate or administration will not be applied for, or cannot be granted, for such time as it thinks fit.

(c.) The Court shall, where the circumstances of the case appear so to require, as soon as may be, take possession of the property in the Protectorate of the deceased, or put it under its seal (in either case, if the nature of the property or other circumstances so require, making an inventory), and so keep it until it can be dealt with according to law.

(d.) All expenses incurred by the Court in so doing shall be the first charge on the property of the deceased, and the Court shall, by sale of the property, or part thereof, or otherwise provide for the discharge of these expenses.

26. Where a British subject or foreigner dies in the Protectorate intestate, his property shall, until administration is granted, vest in the Consul-General.

27. If a person named executor in a will, to the establishment of whose title, as such, it is necessary to obtain probate of that will, takes possession of, and administers or otherwise deals with, any part of the property of the deceased, and does not obtain probate within one month after the death, or after the termination of any proceeding respecting probate or administration, he shall be liable to be punished with fine, which may extend to 1,000 rupees.

28. If any person other than the person named executor, or the administrator, or a person entitled to represent the deceased, without obtaining probate or letters of administration, or an officer of the Court, takes possession of and administers, or otherwise deals with, any part of the property of the deceased, he shall, as soon as practicable, notify the fact and the circumstances to the District Court, and shall furnish to that Court all such information as the Court requires, and shall conform to any directions of the Court in relation to the custody, disposal, or transmission of the property, or the proceeds thereof, and in case of any contravention of this Article, he shall be liable to be punished with fine, which may extend to 1,000 rupees.

29.—(1.) When the peculiar circumstances of the case appear so to require, for reasons recorded in its proceedings, the District Court may, if it thinks fit, of its own motion or otherwise, grant letters of administration to an officer or practitioner of the Court.

(2.) The person so appointed shall act under the direction of the Court, and shall be indemnified thereby; and, if he is a practitioner, he shall not act otherwise than as administrator in relation to the estate.

(3.) He shall publish such notices, if any, as the Court thinks fit, in the Protectorate, Aden, the United Kingdom, and elsewhere.

(4.) The Court shall require and compel him to file, in the proper office of the Court, his accounts of his administration at intervals not exceeding three months.

(5.) The accounts shall be audited under the direction of the Court.

(6.) All expenses incurred in behalf of the Court in execution of this Article shall be the first charge on the estate of the deceased in the Protectorate; and the Court shall by the sale of the estate or otherwise, provide for the discharge of those expenses.

30.—(a.) Every agreement for reference to arbitration to which a person subject to this Order is a party may, on the application of any party, be filed for execution in the proper office of the District Court.

(b.) The Court shall thereupon have authority to enforce the agreement, and the award made thereunder, and to control and regulate the proceedings before and after the award, in such manner and on such terms as the Court may think fit.

PART VI.—*Miscellaneous.*

31. Subject to the approval of the Secretary of State, the Protectorate Court may frame Rules of Procedure and other Rules, consistent with this Order, for the better execution of the provisions herein contained in respect of civil or criminal proceedings, and for regulating the conditions on which persons other than parties may be permitted to practise as advocates or solicitors in any Court, and for suspending or excluding (subject to a right of appeal) such persons from practice in case of misconduct: provided that any scales of remuneration fixed by such Rules shall have been sanctioned by the Treasury.

32. The Consul-General may make Regulations (to be called Queen's Regulations) for the following purposes, consistent with the provisions of this Order, that is to say:—

(i.) For the regulation of all matters relating to customs, inland revenue, post-office, land, highways, railways, money, agriculture, trade and health.

(ii.) For the establishment of a constabulary or other force to be employed in the maintenance of order or (either with or without the limits of this Order) in defence of the Protectorate.

(iii.) For securing the observance of any Treaty for the time being in force relating to the Protectorate, or of any native or local law or custom; and

(iv.) For the registration of documents purporting or operating to create, declare, assign, limit, or extinguish any right, title, or interest in or over any immovable property situate in the Protectorate.

(v.) Generally for the peace, order, and good government of the Protectorate.

Any Regulations under this Article may provide for forfeiture of any goods, receptacles, or things in relation to which, or to the contents of which, any breach is committed of such Regulations, or of any Treaty, or any native or local law or custom, the observance of which is provided for by the Regulations.

Any Regulations under this Article with respect to the registration of documents may prescribe the period within which any documents are to be registered, and such penalties for non-registration, whether by stamp duties or otherwise, and whether, in lieu of, or in addition to, the other penalties provided by this Article; but nothing in any such Regulations shall make any instrument inadmissible in evidence in any criminal proceeding.

Any Regulations under this Article shall, when allowed by the Secretary of State, and published by the Consul-General, have effect as if contained in this Order: Provided that in case of urgency declared by any such Regulations, the same shall take effect before such allowance, and shall continue to have effect unless and until they are disallowed by the Secretary of State, and until notification of such disallowance is received and published by the Consul-General; and such disallowance shall be without prejudice to anything done or suffered under such Regulations in the meantime.

The Consul-General may fix such penalties for the breach of any Regulations as may seem proper, and, where no penalty is so fixed, any person guilty of such breach shall, on conviction, be liable to a fine which may extend to 1,000 rupees, or to imprisonment which may extend to two months, or both, in addition to any forfeiture as aforesaid.

33. The Consul-General may also make Queen's Regulations for the governance, visitation, care, and superintendence of prisons in the Protectorate, and for the infliction of corporal or other punishment on prisoners committing offences against the Prisons Regulations.

Any Regulations under this Article shall, when allowed by the Secretary of State, have effect as if contained in this Order, and copies thereof shall be exhibited in every prison to which they apply in such manner as the Consul-General may direct.

Any breach of Regulations under this Article, committed by any officer of a prison, or by any other person (not being a prisoner), shall be punishable in like manner as a breach of Queen's Regulations under the last preceding Article.

34.—(a.) The Consul-General may, with the approval of the Secretary of State and concurrence of the Treasury, make rules imposing fees leviable in respect of any proceedings in, or processes issued out of, any Court established under this Order, and in respect of the registration of any instrument under this Order.

(b.) But the Court may in any case, if it thinks fit, on account of the poverty of a party, or for any other reason, dispense in whole or in part with the payment of any fee chargeable in respect of such matter.

(c.) Nothing in this Order shall affect any Order in Council prescribing a table of fees to be taken by Consular officers; and, where a fee is taken under that Order, no fee shall be taken in respect of the same matter under this Order.

35.—(a.) All fees, charges, expenses, costs, fines, damages, and other money payable under this Order, or under any law made applicable by this Order, may be enforced under order of the Court by attachment and sale of goods, and in case of deficiency by imprisonment (without hard labour), which may extend to one month.

(b.) Any bill of sale or mortgage, or transfer of property, made with the view of avoiding such attachment or sale, shall not be effectual to defeat the provisions of this Order.

(c.) All fees, penalties, fines, and forfeitures levied under this Order, shall be paid to the public account, and shall be applied in such manner as the Secretary of State, with the consent of the Treasury, may direct.

36. Subject to the other provisions of this Order, all expenses of removal of prisoners and others, and the expenses of deportation and of the sending of any person to any part of Her Majesty's dominions or Protectorates, including expenses of maintenance, shall be defrayed in such manner as the Secretary of State, with the concurrence of the Treasury, directs.

37.—(a.) If an officer of any Court employed to execute an order loses, by neglect or omission, the opportunity of executing it, then, on complaint of the person aggrieved and proof of the fact alleged, the Court may, if it thinks fit, order the officer to pay the damages sustained by the person complaining, or part thereof.

(b.) The order may be enforced as an order directing payment of money.

38.—(a.) If a clerk or officer of the Court, acting under pretence of the process or authority of the Court, is charged with extortion, or with not paying over money duly levied, or with other misconduct, the Court may, if it thinks fit, inquire into the charge in a summary way, and may for that purpose summon and enforce the attendance of all necessary persons as in an action, and may make such order for the repayment of any money extorted, or for the payment over of any money levied, and for the payment of such damages and costs as the Court thinks fit.

(b.) The Court may also, if it thinks fit, on the same inquiry, impose on the clerk or officer a fine not exceeding 50 rupees for each offence.

(c.) A clerk or officer punished under this Article shall not, without the leave of the Protectorate Court, be liable to an action in respect of the same matter; and any such action, if already or afterwards begun, may be stayed by the Court in such manner and on such terms as the Court thinks fit.

(d.) Nothing in this Article shall be deemed to prevent any person from being prosecuted under any other law for any act or omission punishable under this Article, or for being liable under that other law to any higher punishment or penalty than that provided by this Article: Provided that no person shall be punished twice for the same offence.

39. The Consul-General, or any officer of the Protectorate Government appointed by him in that behalf, may exercise any power conferred on any Justices of the Peace within Her Majesty's dominions by any Act of Parliament, for the time being in force, regulating merchant seamen or the merchantile marine.

40. If a question arises whether any place is or is not within the Protectorate for the purposes of this Order, it shall be referred to and determined by the Consul-General, and a certificate under his hand and seal shall be conclusive on the question, and judicial notice thereof shall be taken by every Court constituted by or under this Order.

41. Not later than the 31st March in each year the Consul-General shall send to the Secretary of State a Report on the operation of this Order, up to the 31st December in the previous year, showing for the then last twelve months the number and nature of the proceedings, criminal and civil, taken under this Order, and the result thereof, and the number and amount of fees received, and containing such other information, and being in such form as the Secretary of State from time to time directs.

42. This Order shall commence and have effect as follows:—

(1.) As to the making of any warrant or appointment under this Order, immediately from and after the date of this Order.

(2.) As to the framing of Rules of Procedure or Regulations, and the approval thereof by the Secretary of State, immediately from and after the date of this Order.

(3.) As to all other matters and provisions comprised and contained in this Order, immediately from and after the expiration of one month after this Order is first exhibited in the public office of the Protectorate at Berbera; for which purpose the Consul-General is hereby required forthwith, on receipt by him of a copy of this Order, to affix and exhibit the same conspicuously in his public office, and he is also hereby required to keep the same so affixed and exhibited during one month from the first exhibition thereof; and notice of the time of such exhibition shall,

as soon thereafter as practicable, be published in such manner as the Consul-General directs; and, notwithstanding anything in this Order, the time of the expiration of the said month shall be deemed to be the time of the commencement of this Order.

(4.) Proof shall not in any proceeding or matter be required that the provisions of this Article have been complied with, nor shall any act or proceeding be invalidated by any failure to comply with any of such provisions.

43. A copy of this Order shall be kept exhibited conspicuously in the principal office of the Protectorate of Berbera.

Printed copies shall be provided and sold at such reasonable price as the Consul-General directs.

And the Most Honourable the Marquess of Salisbury, K.G., one of Her Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, is to give the necessary directions herein.

R. E. W.

R. B. F.

SCHEDULE.

Indian Acts applied.

Acts XXXV and XXXVI of 1858 relating respectively to Lunatics and Lunatic Asylums.

The Indian Penal Code (Act XLV of 1860).

"The Whipping Act, 1864" (Act VI of 1864).

The Indian Succession Act (Act X of 1865).

So much of "The Indian Post Office Act, 1866" (Act XIV of 1866) as relates to offences against the Post Office.

The Indian Divorce Act (Act IV of 1869), except so much as relates to divorce and nullity of marriage.

"The Bombay Civil Courts Act, 1869" (Act XIV of 1869), except sections 6, 15, 23, 31, 33, 34, 38 to 43 (both inclusive), the last clause of section 19, and the last two clauses of section 22.

"The Indian Evidence Act, 1872" (Act I of 1872).

"The Indian Contract Act, 1872" (Act IX of 1872).

"The Indian Oaths Act, 1873" (Act X of 1873).

The Indian Majority Act (Act IX of 1875).

"The Indian Limitation Act, 1877" (Act XV of 1877).

"The Transfer of Property Act, 1882" (Act IV of 1882).

The Code of Civil Procedure (Act XIV of 1882).

"The Provincial Small Cause Courts Act, 1887" (Act IX of 1887).

"The Indian Railways Act, 1890" (Act IX of 1890).

"The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1890" (Act XI of 1890).

"The Land Acquisition Act, 1894" (Act of 1894).

The Code of Criminal Procedure (Act V of 1898), except chapter 33.

No. 110.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Consul-General Sadler.

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, September 19, 1899.

IS there any alteration in the situation with regard to the Mollahs? Do you still regard military operations as necessary?

No. 111.

Sir R. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 20.)

(No. 175.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, September 20, 1899.

IT having now been ascertained that the tribe of the Kenana Arabs were carrying on constant communications with the Khalifa, the Sirdar is of opinion that an

No. 111*.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 20.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Aden, September 20, 1899.

THE situation remains unchanged except that the Mullah has returned to Burao, and has burned a village at Sheikh Pass. It is most necessary to begin military operations at an early date. The General Officer Commanding at Aden concurs generally in my view of the operations as set forth in my telegram of the 12th instant; he has, however, already suggested to the Government of India that a full battalion with twenty sappers and a Maxim detachment should be employed instead of 300 infantry. He thinks all risk would thus be avoided, and I would accept the additional force which he proposes, as the question is a military one.

It is reported that the Mullah has sent his belongings into the interior of the Dolbahanta country, and the General concurs with me in thinking that we cannot at present consider the possibility of pursuing him so far.

I arrived here (Aden) to-day, and, unless directed to the contrary, shall return to Berbera to-morrow.

No. 114*.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 22.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Aden, September 22, 1899.

THE military authorities at Aden, bearing in mind that everything, including fodder and sometimes water, will have to be carried, calculate that another battalion of infantry will be required to protect the transport and the line of communications between Burao and Sheikh.

expedition to dislodge the latter, as soon as weather permits, is the only means of assuring peace in the Soudan. The road between Kaka on the White Nile and the Khalifa's position at Gedir has been reconnoitred by officers, who find that the difficulties are not so great as was previously stated. Transport is now in course of being moved up the river.

Native irregulars have been sent to assist the local Chief at Shakka, whose defeat by the Dervishes under Arabi Dafallah was reported to your Lordship in my telegram No. 174, and thus to prevent the junction of the force of the latter Emir with that of the Khalifa.

No. 112.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Consul-General Sadler.

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, September 20, 1899.

HAVE received your telegram of to-day.

You should await at Aden the decision on proposals made in your telegram of the 13th, respecting which the War Office is being consulted.

No. 113.

Foreign Office to Consul-General Sadler.

(No. 92.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 20, 1899.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 67 of the 19th ultimo, relating to the seizure of arms smuggled into the Protectorate from Jibuti.

I am to inform you that Lord Salisbury approves your proposal to distribute a portion of the reward offered by you for captured rifles amongst the police in recognition of their good services on this occasion.

I am, &c.

(Signed) F. H. VILLIERS.

No. 114.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received September 21.)

Sir,

India Office, September 20, 1899.

I AM directed by Lord George Hamilton to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 9th instant, forwarding for observations a despatch from Her Majesty's Agent in Abyssinia, advocating the grant of a Government guarantee for the purpose of buying out the rights of the French Jibuti-Harrar Railway Company, and replacing that line by one starting from Berbera.

2. In reply I am to say that there is, in Lord George Hamilton's opinion, some force in the views stated by Mr. Harrington, in regard to the danger which would result to the Somali Coast Protectorate and to British commercial interests in that quarter from a railway having its terminus at Jibuti.

3. Lord George Hamilton does not, however, share Mr. Harrington's apprehensions as to the effect of this line on Indian revenues by a diversion of trade from Aden; nor does he regard the question as being one in which Indian interests are materially concerned, now that the administration of the Protectorate has been transferred from the Government of India.

I have, &c.

(Signed) HORACE WALPOLE.

No. 115.

Foreign Office to Treasury.

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 22, 1899.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to state, for the information of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, that in view of the political importance of the continued residence of a British Agent in Abyssinia it becomes necessary to provide for the maintenance of Her Majesty's Mission at Addis Abbeba for a further period.

Their Lordships will remember that by your letter of the 13th August of last year their assent was conveyed to an estimate of 5,106*l.* to meet the expenses of the British Mission for a period of nine months.

It was found necessary, owing to the progress of negotiations with the Emperor Menelek on frontier questions and other matters of Imperial importance, to retain Captain Harrington at Addis Abbeba for a longer period than was estimated for, and the actual duration of his visit was ten and a-half months. It will be seen from the inclosed copy of a despatch from Captain Harrington that the total expenditure incurred by him during this period was 4,417*l.* 7*s.* 11*d.*, and therefore well within the limits of the Estimate, which was calculated for nine months only.

Lord Salisbury is of opinion that, although it is most probable that the British Mission to Abyssinia must ultimately be placed on a permanent footing, it will be sufficient for the present, until the requirements are more fully ascertained by experience, to continue to charge the expenditure of the Mission under the sub-head "Special Missions," and to provide for its maintenance for a further period of ten months.

The arduous and responsible character of the work performed by Her Majesty's Agent, and the half-civilized nature of the country where he is compelled to reside, make it necessary, in Lord Salisbury's opinion, that an Assistant should be attached to the Mission to help Captain Harrington in the work and to take his place during possible periods of illness. During Captain Harrington's stay at Addis Abbeba it was at one time necessary to consider whether an officer should not be sent for this purpose, and it was only owing to the visit to Abyssinia of some English travellers that the immediate necessity of sending out an Assistant was removed.

Their Lordships will find in the second inclosure to Captain Harrington's despatch, transmitted herewith, an estimate of the expenditure of the Mission for a further period of ten months amounting to 5,500*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.*

Lord Salisbury considers that this estimate, including the proposed salary at the rate of 400*l.* a-year to the Assistant, is reasonable, and he trusts that it will receive the favourable consideration of the Lords Commissioners.

As Captain Harrington proposes to start for his post next month, I am to request you to move their Lordships to favour Lord Salisbury with a reply at their early convenience.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 116.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 23.)

(No. 73.)

My Lord,

Berbera, September 7, 1899.

ON arriving at Berbera I found that although the equipment for the new police and a portion of the ammunition have been received, the Martini-Henry rifles and carbines have not yet arrived.

I accordingly telegraphed to-day to request that action on my despatch No. 68 of the 20th ultimo may be suspended.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

J. HAYES SADLER.

No. 117.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 23.)

(No. 74. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Berbera, September 10, 1899.

AFTER closing my despatch No. 71 of the 31st ultimo, arrangements were made with some 350 of the Adan Aysa, who had collected in obedience to my summons to co-operate with the neighbouring hill tribes to assist the friendly Habr Yunis in the event of an advance in their direction, and at the same time to retain hold of the Jerato Pass.

I arrived at Laferug on the evening of the 1st instant, and finding there despatches from Berbera informing me that, from the accounts which had reached Aden as to the position on the coast, the Political Resident had sent round the reliefs earlier than usual, with discretionary power to use them for the defence of the town, I determined to at once push on, and, leaving the camp behind, I reached Berbera with Lieutenant Cordeaux at 9 A.M. on the 2nd.

From the accounts I received on my arrival I deemed it desirable to ask Lieutenant Heath to remain at Berbera as a very temporary measure with the old Berbera relief, thus doubling the strength of the detachment, and the Royal Indian mail-steamer "Minto" left the same evening to complete the reliefs at Bulhar and Zeyla, where no increase of strength was called for.

For some days previous to my arrival, and afterwards, reports were received from all sides of a projected attack on the town. These accounts tallied as to the main objects of the Mullah, and differed only in detail. He was supposed to be coming with a large force of horse and foot, of whose numbers no accurate estimate could be made, to loot Berbera, destroy the mission-houses, open the gaol, and burn the more inflammable portions of the town. Considerable excitement spread through the town, merchants began to stow away and hide their valuables, some 200 people left for Aden in the steam-ship "Falcon," and the inhabitants were afraid to sleep in their houses at night. This excitement was considerably allayed by the arrival of the Royal Indian mail-steamer "Minto" with the reliefs, and our return to head-quarters, and with the arrival of Her Majesty's ship "Pomone" on the 6th instant all cause for uneasiness disappeared. With the precautions which have now been taken, there is very little probability of an advance being made in this direction, though the reports have by no means ceased. The danger of the position lay in the fact that the Mullah, Muhammad Abdullah, has made such high pretensions and claims that it was thought probable he would be forced soon to take some definite action both to try and maintain his reputation, and to satisfy those of his following who have joined him for purposes of loot. Moreover, the present season is unusually dry, fodder is scarce, and it is not easy to see how he is to maintain the large force he is reported to have with him for any length of time.

Mr. Malcolm Jones, who was left in charge of Berbera whilst Lieutenant Cordeaux was absent with me in the districts, took all possible precautions, and acted throughout with judgment and tact.

My first act on my return was to proclaim the Mullah a rebel, and warn all persons by Proclamation in the Bazaar that all those affording him any assistance and holding any communication with him would be severely punished. The tribes were warned that they would be held responsible for the acts of the individual members of their tribes, and, as the most efficient means of preventing supplies reaching the Mullah's camp, and generally bringing pressure to bear on the tribes who have espoused his cause, all caravan communication with the affected districts of the Dolbahanta and the Habr Toljaala has been temporarily suspended. The temporary loss of revenue which this measure will entail will be easily made good as soon as the ban is removed.

So far as can be ascertained the greater part of the Habr Toljaala and some portions of the Dolbahanta are concerned in this movement. The Mullah's following may be divided into three classes—those who believe him to be inspired, such as the Aligheri and other wild tribes of the Dolbahanta; those who have joined him for purposes of loot, such as the Habr Toljaala, Rer Yusuf, and Adan Madoba, and his more immediate following of outcasts from Aden and Berbera. And those who have either joined him or afforded him assistance because they could not otherwise help themselves. Between those in categories Nos. 2 and 3 it is not easy at present in many cases to discriminate. Of the Rer Yusuf and Adan Madoba, however, there is no doubt; and these and some of the other tribes will have to be punished. The case of the Adan Madoba is a particularly flagrant

one; they have intimate business relations with Berbera and Aden, and probably know us better than any of the Eastern tribes.

On the 8th instant a reconnaissance by a party of the Camel Corps established the fact that Dubbur, 8 miles south of the Sheikh Pass, had been occupied by the Mullah's force, the Mullah himself remaining at Burao. Yesterday a party of thirty-four of the Mullah's following were brought in prisoners by the friendly Mahomed Aysa. These people had been living on the religious community at Sheikh for the last four days. They are all Dolbahanta men, many of them from the Mullah's village of Kob Fardod, and are a poor lot. Otherwise no change has taken place in the situation. The prisoners could give no information of any value. Reports are now current that the Mullah will move towards Odweina. At Hargaisa Sheikh Mattar is collecting the Aidagalleh and Habr Awal tribes to oppose his advance in that direction. Sheikh can command a sufficient following to safeguard Hargaisa, and I should say that the Mullah will not attempt to penetrate so far to the west. He will probably harass the friendly Habr Yunis towards Odweina.

With regard to the Habr Yunis, it must be observed that this tribe is mainly responsible for the present state of affairs. Had it not been for the encouragement he received at the outset from this tribe, the Mullah would never have established himself at Burao last spring; and of the friendly Habr Yunis, that is to say, the western sections, a large proportion were lately mixed up with the Mullah and Sultan Nur.

So far as can be judged I should be inclined to put down the Mullah's force at from 400 to 600 horse, and from 1,000 to 1,500 foot. This estimate is necessarily but a rough one, as but little reliance can be placed on native reports, the Somali having but little idea of time and place, and still less of numbers.

In dealing with this force, it should be remembered that the tribes composing it are mostly wild savages who have never come in contact with fire-arms, and who have not the reputation of the Aysa in pressing home an attack with the spear. There would not be the same danger from a determined night attack as in the Aysa expedition of 1890. Camel transport can be collected within a fortnight. Compressed fodder would have to be brought from Aden for the horses, as the country is unusually dry, and the Mullah's following will have exhausted the grass in the vicinity of Burao.

I am fully convinced of the necessity of driving back this pest by force of arms; I regret the expense of an expedition, but of its need I entertain no doubt. The cost could be partly recouped by placing a punitive tax on the Dolbahanta and Habr Toljaala trade.

I annex translation of a letter from the Mullah received in Berbera the day before my return. No notice has been taken of this communication.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

Inclosure in No. 117.

*Translation of a Letter from Mullah Muhammad Abdullah, received at Berbera on the
1st September, 1899.*

From Muhammad-bin-Abdullah to the English.

THIS is to inform you that you have done whatever you have desired, and oppressed our well-known religion without any cause. Further, to inform you that whatever people bring to you they are liars and slanderers.

Further, to inform you that Mahomed, your Akil, came to ask from us the arms; we therefore send you this letter. Now choose for yourself; if you want war we accept it, if you want peace pay the fine.

This and salaam.

No. 118.

Intelligence Division to Foreign Office.—(Received September 23.)

THE Director of Military Intelligence presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and begs to forward, by direction of the Secretary of State for War, the copy of a Report he has drawn up with reference to Consul-General Sadler's telegram of the 20th instant.

The Secretary of State for War was desirous that this Report should reach the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs before the assembly of the Cabinet Council.

18, *Queen Anne's Gate, London,*
September 22, 1899.

Inclosure in No. 118.

Memorandum.

P.U.S.,

I HAVE very little to add to the letter sent by you to the Foreign Office on the 18th instant.

Consul-General Sadler's remark that "Military operations are very necessary, and at an early date," appears to be a sufficient answer to the recommendation made by Lord Lansdowne that Sadler should be again referred to before the final decision was taken.

As regards the force we have already informed the Foreign Office that the capture of the Mullah can be best achieved by using cavalry as the bulk of the force to be employed.

Consul-General Sadler, in a letter to the Foreign Office, No. 71, dated the 31st August also, says:—

"This Mullah is actually at Burao with a force from the Dolbahanta and the Ogaden, which, from the various accounts received, may be put down at 1,500 men, with a large proportion of horse. It is not believed that he has more than forty or fifty rifles with him." This confirms our information that the Mullah's following is well equipped with cavalry.

The Mullah's foot following would, in addition, be far more mobile than any regular infantry we could employ.

Consequently, there would, in my opinion, be little chance of catching the Mullah, without the employment of a force of cavalry sufficiently strong to act alone if necessary.

The report that the Mullah had sent his belongings to the Dolbahanta country, which is south and south-east of Burao, points to his contemplating retirement there himself if his present operations are unsuccessful. To frustrate such an attempt a strong force of cavalry is clearly necessary.

After carefully considering the matter I hold to my opinion that the force suggested in your letter to the Foreign Office of the 18th instant is the most suitable to be employed. As, however, the Foreign Office are in full possession of our views, no further action by this Office would appear to be necessary.

For Director of Military Intelligence,

(Signed)

WILLIAM EVERETT,

Assistant Adjutant-General.

September 21, 1899.

No. 119.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received September 23.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Lord George Hamilton, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a telegram from the Political Resident, Aden, dated the 22nd September, regarding the rising in Somaliland.

India Office, September 23, 1899.

Inclosure in No. 119.

Resident at Aden to Lord G. Hamilton.

(Telegraphic.)

Aden, September 22, 1899.

CONSUL-GENERAL now at Aden thinks movement of troops on Barao desirable. I concur. So far as I can judge from latest information, I strongly recommend 100 native cavalry, two native regiments, two Maxims, section sappers and miners. Shaikh has been destroyed by fire, 16th September last. [Will] keep you informed by telegraph. Government of Bombay duly informed.

No. 120.

Foreign Office to Treasury.

(Confidential.)

Foreign Office, September 27, 1899.

Sir,

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to transmit to you, to be laid before the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury, the accompanying copies of telegraphic correspondence with Her Majesty's Consul-General on the Somali Coast,* with respect to the proceedings of a fanatical Mollah who has for some time past threatened to give trouble in the interior of the Protectorate.

It will be seen that the Mollah is now at Burao, in the centre of the Protectorate, and in a position to threaten Berbera and Hargeisa.

Lord Salisbury was very reluctant to undertake another military expedition if it could be avoided, but after consultation with the War Office and Lord Cromer, as well as Captain Harrington, Her Majesty's Consul at Zeyla, now in this country, his Lordship is convinced that immediate and effective steps should be taken for the suppression of the Mollah and the restoration of order.

It will be seen from the letters from the War Office and Intelligence Division, transmitted herewith,† that the force proposed to be sent against the Mollah will consist of one specially selected native cavalry regiment and four companies of native infantry from India, together with two machine-guns, which have already been purchased by the Protectorate.

These troops are, in the opinion of the military authorities, quite sufficient for the object in view, and the larger force requested in Colonel Hayes Sadler's telegrams is not considered to be necessary.

As immediate action is requisite, Lord Salisbury has requested the Secretary of State for India to take steps for the dispatch of the above-mentioned force from India to Berbera without delay.

Lord Salisbury fears that the expenses of the proposed expedition will exceed the amount which the resources of the Protectorate can bear, though it is at present impossible to form any estimate of the cost.

It may, therefore, be necessary to apply to the Lords Commissioners at a later date for a grant-in-aid to meet the deficit in the Protectorate revenues which will be caused by these operations.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

FRANCIS BERTIE.

No. 121.

Foreign Office to India Office.

(Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, September 27, 1899.

WITH reference to your letter of the 23rd instant and previous correspondence, I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to state that in view of the situation created in the Somaliland Protectorate by the hostile action of the Dolbahanta Mollah, it has become necessary to take effective steps for the restoration of order.

Lord Salisbury is of opinion that Her Majesty's Government should adopt the suggestions, as to the composition of the force to be employed, made in the War Office

* No. 108

† No. 118.

letter of the 18th instant, of which a copy was sent to you on the 20th, and in the accompanying letter from the Intelligence Division of the 22nd instant,* that is to say, the employment of a specially selected regiment of native cavalry and four companies of native infantry from India, together with two machine-guns, which have been already sent out to the Protectorate.

I transmit the draft of a telegram which Lord Salisbury proposes to address to Colonel Hayes Sadler,† and I am to request that, if Lord George Hamilton concurs in the course contemplated, he will ask the Government of India to dispatch the above-mentioned force to Berbera with as little delay as possible, under the command of a duly qualified and experienced officer, as suggested in the War Office letter of the 18th September.

I am, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

No. 122.

Treasury to Foreign Office.—(Received September 28.)

Sir,

Treasury Chambers, September 27, 1899.

WITH reference to your letter of the 22nd instant on the subject of the proposed extension for a further period of ten months of Her Majesty's Mission at Adis Abeba, I am directed by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to state that, on the recommendation of the Marquess of Salisbury, they sanction the salary of 400*l.* per annum for an Assistant to be attached to the Mission and the estimate of expenditure submitted by Captain Harrington at a total of 5,500*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.* for the ten months (including 537*l.* on account of the salary and expenses of the Assistant and 245*l.* for contingencies).

I am, however, to refer to the provision for two Interpreters, and to inquire whether Captain Harrington now finds it impossible to dispense with one of them, as he had hoped to do after a few months (*vide* his letter of the 28th July, 1898, inclosed in yours of the 13th August, 1898).

My Lords approve of the proposal of the Secretary of State to continue to charge the expenditure for the further period to the Special Mission Sub-head of the Diplomatic and Consular Vote.

I am, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS MOWATT.

No. 123.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received September 28.)

Sir,

India Office, September 27, 1899.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 25th ultimo, and to inform you that as the Government of India appear to have agreed to the transfer of the securities of the "Rer Hared Fund" to the name of Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General, Somali Coast Protectorate, subject to 150 rupees per annum being placed at the disposal of the Political Agent at Aden to provide passages for indigent and sick Somalis, the Secretary of State for India in Council has no objection to the transfer being completed.

I am, &c.
(Signed) HORACE WALPOLE.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received September 28.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Lord George Hamilton, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, copy of a letter from the Political Resident at Aden, dated the 7th September, and inclosure, regarding the rising in Somaliland.

It is requested that these papers, which are sent in original, may be returned to this Office when done with.

India Office, September 27, 1899.

Inclosure in No. 124.

Memorandum.

REITERATED rumours being received from the Somali Coast, Berbera, of an intended attack on that town by the Dolbahanta Mullah, and these rumours being advanced from reliable sources, the General Officer Commanding and Resident—aware that the Consul-General was inland, and perhaps not fully acquainted with the Mullah's movements—took advantage of the sailing on the 31st August of the R.I.M.S. "Minto," with the Somali Coast reliefs of Bombay infantry, to place the ship at the disposal of the Somali Coast authorities.

2. Lieutenant Heath in charge of the reliefs was given as complete instructions as the vague details at command allowed. He was to act in consultation with the coast authorities, but not to move inland without first obtaining orders from Aden headquarters unless the urgency of affairs endangering the safety of European lives demanded immediate action.

3. Bombay Government informed by telegraph on the 30th August, and it was added that action from Aden was imperative owing to inland and remote position of the Consul-General, Somali Coast Protectorate.

4. Writing from Berbera on the 1st September, the Officer Commanding reliefs confirmed the persistency of the rumours of attack. The Mullah was reported at Barao, within two days' march of Berbera, and with a considerable following. Probabilities of attack somewhat discountenanced by the Vice-Consul. The Consul-General was at Jarato, and a move by the Mullah to cut him off was thought not unlikely. A messenger was deputed by Lieutenant Heath to Jarato for orders of Consul-General, and the "Minto" was detained till receipt of reply.

5. On the 2nd September Bombay Government again informed by telegraph in the sense of Lieutenant Heath's report.

6. Consul-General, Somali Coast Protectorate, writing from Camp Jarato on the 31st August, incloses telegrams for the Foreign Office, London, and states that Mullah has declared himself Mahdi; is at Barao with a force he is trying daily to augment from the Eastern tribes; that the Foreign Office had been asked for troops to quash the rising, and that a man-of-war also requisitioned in the event of an attack on Berbera.

(This letter was received in Aden by country craft on the 3rd September.)

7. Government of Bombay advised by telegraph of the contents of the above letter from Consul-General the 3rd September.

8. Secretary of State of India similarly informed the 3rd September.

9. Consul-General, Somali Coast Protectorate, writing from Berbera on the 4th September, states that Lieutenant Heath has been detained as a very temporary measure with the new and the old relief for Berbera. "Minto," sailed with remaining coast reliefs. Reports of an attack upon Berbera still rife, but hardly likely with precautions taken. His forces unknown. A move against the Mullah contemplated, but Maxims ordered wanted. Asks that these may be dispatched as soon as they reach Aden.

(This letter reached Aden on the 5th September.)

10. Bombay Government and India Office informed by telegraph of the contents of the Consul-General's letter, 5th September—the Resident recording the precise orders given by him to Lieutenant Heath in regard to moving inland.

11. Confirms the very temporary detention of Lieutenant Heath with the two reliefs which will be a great assistance; states the men will be employed only for defence of the town; their services probably dispensed with after a week or so; adds that the Berbera police are not trustworthy, but expects addition of 20 Soudanese* to their numbers. Remarks on the suddenness of the affair and the difficulty experienced in getting reliable intelligence of the Mullah's movements; that there is a wonderful unanimity in the accounts received regarding the Mullah's possible intentions. The move on Barao forbodes mischief in some direction. Promises early intimation of facts as disclosed.

Note.—Her Majesty's ship "Pomone," under instructions from England, left for Berbera on evening of the 5th September.

Aden Residency, September 7, 1899.

(Confidential.)

Aden Residency, September 7, 1899.

THE accompanying Memorandum relating to the disaffection in the Somali Coast Protectorate is forwarded, with compliments, to the Political and Secret Department, India Office.

2. The reason I ordered the troops not to act inland except in urgent necessity where European life was endangered was that I had no reliable intelligence, nor have I now, of the strength of the Mullah's force; and previous experience teaches that it is not safe to allow small bodies of native infantry to operate away from their base, without support, in Somaliland.

3. Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General has expressed his thanks for the reliefs despatched in the R.I.M.S. "Minto," and for the manner in which his needs have been anticipated.

(Signed) O'M. CREAGH, *Brigadier-General,*
Political Resident, Aden.

No. 125.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received September 28.)

Sir,

India Office, September 27, 1899.

I AM directed by Lord George Hamilton to forward herewith, for any observations the Marquess of Salisbury may have to offer thereon, a copy of a Secret letter from the Government of India, dated the 17th August last, and inclosures, calling attention to the increase of the contract rate for meat supplied to the troops at Aden, consequent upon the levy of duty on live-stock exported from the Somali Coast Protectorate.

2. Lord Salisbury will observe that the Government of India consider that a refund of duty should be granted at Aden on all live-stock imported from the Somali Coast for Government purposes.

I am, &c.
(Signed) HORACE WALPOLE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 125.

Government of India to Lord G. Hamilton.

(Secret.)

My Lord,

Simla, August 17, 1899.

WITH reference to the Secret despatch from Lord Elgin's Government, dated the 17th March, 1898, and to the connected correspondence regarding the transfer to Her Majesty's Government of the control of the Somali Coast Protectorate, we have the honour to forward a copy of a letter from the Government of Bombay, regarding the duty on live-stock exported from the Protectorate and the consequent increase in the contract rate for meat supplied to the troops at Aden.

2. The effect of the duty has not yet been reported to us owing to a contract for the supply of meat to the Aden garrison having been entered into before the duty was introduced. The loss to the contractors, based upon the average consumption of the

* Already dispatched from Aden.

garrison for the three years which ended in 1898, is, however, estimated at about 5,720 rupees a year. This loss would eventually fall, either directly or indirectly, upon Indian revenues. In the circumstances, we are of opinion that a refund of duty should be granted at Aden on all live-stock exported from the Protectorate for Government purposes, and that this refund should have retrospective effect from the 16th December, 1898, the date from which it is understood that the duty has been levied.

We have, &c.
 (Signed) CURZON OF KEDLESTON.
 W. S. A. LOCKHART.
 E. H. H. COLLEN.
 C. M. RIVAZ.
 C. E. DAWKINS.
 T. RALEIGH.
 R. GARDINER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 125.

Government of Bombay to Government of India.

Bombay Castle, June 23, 1899.

I AM directed to transmit herewith, for such action as his Excellency the Governor-General in Council may consider necessary, a copy of a Confidential letter from the Political Resident, Aden, dated the 12th May last, and of its inclosures, regarding the levy of a duty on live-stock exported from the Somali Coast Protectorate and the consequent increase in the contract rate for meat supplied to the troops at Aden.

2. In connection with this matter, I am to invite attention to my Confidential letter dated the 22nd December, 1897, and its inclosures, and to state that, in the opinion of the Governor in Council, the transfer of the control of the Somali Coast to the Foreign Office of the Home Government should not have affected the question of a refund of export duty on live-stock ultimately purchased for the Indian Government at Aden.

Inclosure 3 in No. 125.

Political Resident, Aden, to Government of Bombay.

Aden Residency, May 12, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for the information of Government, a copy of a portion of Consul-General Sadler's tariff revision for the Somali Coast Protectorate, and also that of his letter in reply to my query as to whether a refund was contemplated in the matter of meat supplied to the troops in this garrison.

These are marked respectively (A) and (B).

These export fees on live-stock have never been charged hitherto. The result is an increase in the contract rate for meat, and the cost must, unless removed, be borne by the Indian Government.

2. I would invite attention to Government Confidential letter, dated the 26th September, 1896, Political Department, forwarding inclosures, and relative to the proposed separation of the Somali Coast Protectorate. In it was embodied the following opinion of the Government of India:—

“As regards the food supply of Aden, which hitherto has been the motive for the maintenance of our establishments on the Somali Coast, we see no reason why the arrangements now in force should not be equally secured when the control of the coast is transferred to Her Majesty's Government.”

(No. 74 of the 22nd April, 1896, to Secretary of State.)

The Secretary of State for India remarked thus in reply:—

“So long as Aden depends upon the Protectorate for its supplies I agree that the connection between it and the Somali Coast ports is vital.”

3. It is true that with the transfer of that Protectorate to Her Majesty's Foreign Office, we have no cause to apprehend any diminution in the quantity of live-stock imported thence into the garrison.

Former arrangements cannot, however, be described as "equally secured" now that Government have to pay more for these food supplies than was the rule when Somaliland was controlled from Aden. Had the Somali Coast ports been ceded to Abyssinia, there can be no doubt but that Government would have provisionally precluded any such imposition as is now levied by the Consul-General. I would remind Government of the magnanimity and forbearance of the Egyptian Government who, when a remonstrance was addressed them in 1875 on their proposal to tax exports of live-stock from Berbera and Bulhar to Aden, immediately abandoned the scheme (*vide* letter dated 13th December, 1876, from Secretary Mr. Gonne to Brigadier-General Schneider and accompaniments).

4. Again, see letter from Political Agent for Somali Coast (confidential), of the 19th November, 1897 (paragraph 8), forwarded with my indorsement (confidential) of the 20th idem. Here it was proposed that "a refund be given at Aden for all live-stock exported from the coast for Government purposes."

Vide also my telegram of the 13th May, 1898, urging the adoption of the new Tariff recently proposed and Government of India's reply thereto embodied in your telegram of the 11th June following, in which the export fees were discountenanced unless there were substantial grounds for apprehension of embarrassment in respect of the food supplies of Aden. The imposition, even had it been permitted, would not have affected Aden nor the incidence have touched the Indian revenues.

5. Major-General Hobday, the Commissary-General-in-chief, who was deputed to inquire whether the retention of British ports in Somaliland was essentially necessary to provide the Aden food supply, writing from Aden to the Government of India on the 16th February, 1897, showed, working on the past four years' actuals, that the average annual consumption in Aden was—

Of cattle	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,000
Of sheep and goats	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	82,700

coming from the Somali Coast ports—

Cattle	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1,000
Sheep and goats	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	79,400

the remainder 1,000 and 3,300, respectively, being imported from Arabia.

The average annual supply to the troops in garrison was 1,100 cattle and 6,000 sheep.

6. Were the Hinterland of Arabia opened up by the abolition of transit dues levied by local Chiefs, about which I will address Government later on, and a railway, as suggested by me, constructed it is not rash to predict that our dependence on the Somali Coast would become a negligible quantity.

As matters now stand, some special provision is recommended in the interests of this garrison and the Indian Government, and I would suggest that the Foreign Office, London, be addressed with a view to a rebate of export duty on articles supplied for the garrison of Aden.

Inclosure 4 in No. 125.

Notice.

WITH effect from the 16th December, 1898, the import duty of 5 per cent. *ad valorem*, levied at Zeyla, will be reduced on the following articles:—

* * * * *

2. With effect from the same date a duty will be charged on live-stock exported from the Somali Coast Protectorate at the following rates:—

								Rs.	a.	p.
For each horse	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	8	0	0
For each horned cattle and camel	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4	0	0
For sheep and goats..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	0	4	0

(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER,

Her Britannic Majesty's Consul-General, Somali Coast

Her Majesty's Somali Coast Protectorate,

Zeyla, November 30, 1898.

Inclosure 5 in No. 125.

Consul-General Sadler to the Political Resident, Aden.

Berbera, January 3, 1899.

IN reply to your letter dated the 20th ultimo, I have the honour to say that the proposal to refund the export duty on cattle and sheep imported into Aden for the use of the garrison was made at a time when the Somali Coast was under the control of the Indian Government.

The Protectorate has since been transferred to Her Majesty's Government, and it is not now, I understand, the intention to allow the refund in question.

No. 126.

Sir R. Rodd to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 28.)

(No. 178.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, September 28, 1899.

WITH reference to your Lordship's telegram No. 95, I have the honour to state that the day before yesterday Reuter's agent called upon me and asked as to the truth of the news which, he informed me, had been published in the "Daily Telegraph." I replied that the Sirdar was now studying the situation, but that no decision had as yet been taken about an expedition.

My telegram to your Lordship was based on a private letter from the Sirdar, which I have not communicated to any one, and on a subsequent telegram from him. From information which has reached me, however, I fear that the Egyptian War Office have made some injudicious communication as to the preparations at the front to the correspondent of the "Daily Telegraph," but I am causing further inquiries to be made into the matter.

No. 127.

Treasury to Foreign Office.—(Received September 30.)

Sir,

Treasury Chambers, September 30, 1899.

THE Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury have had before them Mr. Bertie's letter of the 27th instant, with its inclosures, intimating that the Marquess of Salisbury has taken the necessary steps for the immediate dispatch from India to Berbera of a native cavalry regiment and four companies of native infantry, in order to cope with an incursion of a fanatical Mollah into the Somaliland Protectorate.

My Lords sanction the necessary expenditure connected with this expedition, so far as it cannot be met by Protectorate funds, and will await the further communication as to the provision of funds which is indicated in the last paragraph of the letter under reply.

In the meantime, their Lordships think it well to state the main considerations which will govern the expenditure to be incurred: The whole expenses of the Indian contingent outside India must be repaid to the Government of India, and it will be proper to stipulate beforehand that the pay and allowances of the contingent while serving out of India will be at the precise rates prescribed by Indian Regulations. On this latter basis (which has been agreed to between the Secretary of State and this Board, as recorded in the Treasury letter of the 7th June last), it will be possible to procure from the Government of India an exact estimate per mensem of the pay, &c., of the force; and the cost of transport can similarly be ascertained.

My Lords request that this information may be obtained by telegraph and communicated to them, together with an approximate estimate from the Protectorate of the total local cost per mensem of victualling the force, providing transport, and

No. 126*.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received September 29.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Aden, September 29, 1899.

IT is reported that the Mullah, who has evacuated Burao, is now at Bohotele, 100 miles south, from which he says that he will advance north again when he has collected reinforcements. Whether he really intends to do so or has made the announcement in order to retain his hold on the vacated country is not known. Under favourable conditions the Mullah, now that he is back in the Dalbahanta country, may collect from 3,000 to 10,000 followers, but until we occupy Burao we can ascertain nothing definite as to the attitude of the tribes south of that place.

It is now more than ever necessary to effect the occupation.

similar charges in Somaliland. With such data and a statement of the available resources of the Protectorate, my Lords will be in a position to consider at the proper time what should be the amount for which it may be necessary to make application to Parliament before the close of the financial year.

I am, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS MOWATT.

No. 128.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received September 30.)

(Confidential.)

Sir,

India Office, September 30, 1899.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th instant, and to acquaint you in reply that Lord George Hamilton concurs in the dispatch of the required force from India to Somaliland on the understanding that all the expenses, ordinary and extraordinary, connected therewith, will be defrayed from Imperial revenues.

A copy of a telegram which has been addressed to the Viceroy of India is forwarded for the Marquess of Salisbury's information.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. WHITMORE SMITH,
Assistant Military Secretary.

Inclosure in No. 128.

Lord G. Hamilton to the Government of India.

(Telegraphic.)

India Office, September 29, 1899.

MY telegram of 25th September: Somaliland.

Foreign Office, guided by advice of War Office, ask for a specially-selected native cavalry regiment, and four companies of native infantry to be dispatched as soon as possible to Berbera under an officer of experience. If you have no objection, please arrange accordingly. All expenses to be borne by Imperial Government.

No. 129.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Consul-General Sadler.

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, September 30, 1899.

WAR Office have considered your telegram of the 22nd instant as to the composition of the force to operate against the Mollah. In their opinion the troops to be employed should be furnished from India and not drawn from Aden, and should consist of four companies of native infantry, a specially selected native cavalry regiment, and the two machine-guns which should have arrived at Aden on the 22nd instant.

The Government of India will be instructed to dispatch this force to Berbera and to put in command a fully qualified officer, to whom you should allow a free hand as far as possible.

The Abyssinians may offer to assist, but Her Majesty's Government do not consider it desirable that Abyssinian troops should operate within the limits of the British Somali Coast Protectorate.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 2.)

(No. 75. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Berbera, September 14, 1899.

ON the 11th instant information was received that the Mullah Muhammad Abdullah had left Burao and occupied Odweina, in the western Habr Yunis country. He is there coercing the western Habr Yunis tribes who water at Odweina, Adadleh, and Syk, and who had declared themselves against him and Sultan Nur. He has seized some of their principal men and a considerable quantity of their live-stock grazing in the Arori and Toyio plains. His methods are as follows:—He seizes the best men of the tribes who have not declared for him and all the property he can collect. These men he beats until they agree to obey him, they are then released and sent to collect their tribesmen. These are all sworn by the triple divorce oath, and if the Mullah is satisfied in some cases he returns the looted property, retaining what he requires for victualling his followers. A quantity of loot is reported to have been sent off to the Dolbahanta.

These are the measures in process with the western Habr Yunis tribes; they have not, however, as yet gone over to him, and still profess their readiness to oppose him. Next the turn of the Aidagalleh will come, and if all these tribes actively join the Mullah the attitude of the Habr Awal tribes, who are now quite loyal, and who are collecting to oppose the Mullah, will in the face of such a coalition, and in the absence of any move on our part, become questionable.

This coercion is of course but temporary, but it is very effective as long as it lasts. As soon as this pressure is removed the tribes will return to us; and if we now take the field, at the first sign of a backward movement on the Mullah's part the tribes will be on him, and I am informed from several quarters that many of his following will at once turn against him.

The position of the employés of the Administration is particularly hard. The Mullah is seizing the Karias, families, and property of all our servants he can find in the interior. Not content with this, I am informed that he has issued a Proclamation making the wives of all connected with the Administration lawful to his followers. The wife of one of our police who fell into his hands was divorced from her husband by the Mullah and appropriated to himself. Yesterday it was reported that a party of 200 men is being sent to seize the Karia of the Ressaldar of our Camel Corps at Megag, in the Aidagalleh country. The Headmen employed by shooting expeditions have mostly had pressure put upon them. In one case a Headman sent the Mullah four camel loads of provisions from Berbera. He was questioned about it to-day, and openly said that he had eaten the Sirkar's salt for a number of years and was not disloyal, but that he had to propitiate the Mullah to save his Karia and property, which were all at the Mullah's mercy in the jungle. Many of these facts are only now coming to light.

Such a state of affairs, I would submit, cannot be allowed to continue in the British Protectorate. It will last till we move actively ourselves, for, though the tribes are partly collected to oppose the Mullah, it is doubtful whether they can of themselves be counted upon to offer any effective resistance, such is the fear this man, who is looked upon as a sorcerer, has inspired in the country.

It is unfortunate that we could not get earlier intimation of the Mullah's intention to move to Burao. I have before alluded to the secrecy which covers his proceedings, and to the difficulty of obtaining reliable information from the Dolbahanta. It will be observed from late reports that I considered the movement was subsiding, and, although we were aware that Sultan Nur had sent several letters to the Mullah to assist him in coercing the western Habr Yunis tribes, our information was to the effect that all attempts to raise a force had failed. Such was certainly the opinion of Sheikh Mattar, of Hargaisa, whose means of obtaining information are probably unequalled in the Protectorate, and whose good faith there is no reason to question. He did not consider there was any probability of a move on the Mullah's part till next spring rains, when he thought that, if he found himself strong enough, he would then create trouble in the western part of the Protectorate, or move into the Ogaden. This opinion was expressed the day I left Hargaisa on my return journey. There seems to have been an altercation, too, between the Mullah and Sultan Nur, the latter saying that he had not collected men and supplies at Burao as the Mullah had moved earlier than he had expected.

From persons acquainted with the Habr Toljaala, I gather that the tribes actively supporting the Mullah from that quarter are the Adan Madoba, the Rer Yusuf, and the

Ahmed Farih. Members of other Habr Toljaala tribes are with the Mullah's following, but they are believed to be there more or less under compulsion. All the Habr Toljaala are now afraid that they will be looted by the Dolbahanta horsemen when the Mullah returns eastwards. Of the Dolbahanta following, too, some are said to have come under compulsion, but it would seem that the majority have been attracted by the prospect of loot.

As regards the strength of the Mullah's following, accounts differ considerably. I doubt if he has more than 1,500 men with him, of which 500 would be horse. And possibly this estimation may be found to be above the mark. It is, however, most difficult to form an accurate opinion on this point.

I consider that a properly equipped force of 300 infantry, 100 cavalry, and two Maxims, which I would supplement by fifteen of our Camel Corps, and thirty police, sufficient to drive the Mullah back, with or without the assistance of friendlies, and to punish him severely if he stands. I do not think there would be any risk in moving such a force anywhere through the country between this, Burao, and the Habr Yunis country; and I may safely say there will be no risk of a reverse. The tribesmen the Mullah has with him have never met anything more formidable than their own spearmen; they have a great dread of fire-arms, and are by all reports in no way to be compared with the Aysa, whom we encountered in 1890.

What is urgently wanted now is an advance by our troops, for which the whole country is waiting. Our first object would naturally be to catch him, and put an end once for all to these disturbances. Unfortunately, it is very doubtful if he will stand. If he is mad, as he is said to be, he may; otherwise, he will probably fall back as soon as he hears of our force leaving Berbera. We should not in this case succeed in capturing him, unless this could be effected by the friendlies, who would be certain to harass his rear. But we should put a stop to the present insupportable state of affairs in the nearer portions of the Protectorate, and the reduction of the truculent tribes about Burao and the Habr Toljaala would be easily effected; they would most of them come in to us of their own accord. An early move is urgently called for. The longer we delay the more difficult will the matter be to deal with, and a continuation of the present position cannot but be detrimental to our influence over the tribes throughout the Protectorate.

If the Mullah is allowed to establish himself for long in this portion of the Protectorate, we may have to reckon with an increase to his numbers from the Dolbahanta, and the matter may assume wider dimensions than it has hitherto done.

It is most difficult to lay down any detailed plan of action beyond the general lines submitted to your Lordship in my telegraph of the 12th instant. The condition of affairs is continually changing, and we can never say where the Mullah will be a week hence. I have before me two main lines. To drive the Mullah back from this portion of the Protectorate, catching him if we can, and to occupy Burao, afterwards moving through the Habr Toljaala country, partly to show a force in that direction, and partly, if necessary, to fine the Adan Madoba and the Rer Yusuf for their share in these disturbances. This scheme would have to be modified in accordance with the Mullah's movements. For instance, reports have been received that he intends to advance to Syk, near the Jerato Pass. If this is the case we should have to march straight on that position from Berbera, and leave the occupation of Burao till after he has been driven back. Burao is a position of considerable strategical importance. It commands the water supply of the eastern Habr Yunis tribes, and of the Adan Madoba and Rer Yusuf tribes of the Habr Toljaala. With this position in our hands we could exercise a powerful control over the surrounding country. I have suggested that 100 infantry, 25 cavalry, with one Maxim entrenched and protected by the wire zariba, would be sufficient to hold Burao.

I have lately been over the country close up to Burao, and have found that by marching via Warren and Wissil there would only be one march between Sheikh and Burao without water. I would propose to make arrangements to have two days' supply of water to be carried with the column. Sufficient transport can be collected here within ten days to a fortnight.

The friendly Mahomed Aysa are now collected at the Sheikh Pass; the Ayal Ahmed and Ayal Yunis have sent out men to muster at Argan to the west of the Jerato Pass, near which are also the hill tribes of the Habr Yunis, who have always been against Sultan Nur, and the Adan Aysa. On both sides friendlies could be mustered in thousands, but the difficulty would be to keep them together for more than a few days away from their Karias and supplies. The strongest coalition will be that of the Habr Awal tribes near Hargaisa under Sheikh Mattar, but it is questionable whether they will

go so far as to join the Habr Yunis in an attack on the Mullah at Odweina, they will probably content themselves with protecting Sheikh Mattar and Hargaisa. I have written to Sheikh Mattar on this point.

The embargo placed on caravans to and from the eastern districts to which I alluded in my despatch No. 74 of the 10th instant, was removed as soon as intimation reached me of the Mullah's move from Burao to Odweina, I have, however, still deemed it advisable not to allow supplies in any quantities to leave Berbera to the east; caravans arriving from that direction are therefore only allowed to take sufficient supplies to last them for the road and the use of their families.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

P.S.—Copies of this despatch and of Nos. 71 and 74, are being sent to Sir Rennell Rodd.

J. H. S.

No. 131.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received October 2.)

(Confidential.)

Sir,

India Office, October 2, 1899.

WITH reference to my letter of the 30th September last, I am directed to forward herewith, for the information of the Marquess of Salisbury, copy of a telegram from the Viceroy of India regarding the dispatch of the force to Somaliland.

I am, &c.
(Signed) F. WHITMORE SMITH,
Assistant Military Secretary.

Inclosure in No. 131.

The Government of India to Lord G. Hamilton.

(Telegraphic.)

September 30, 1899.

YOUR telegram of the 29th September: Somaliland.

We will supply troops asked for. Cavalry regiment will be at once selected from Bombay; also four companies native infantry to replace those at Aden who will be sent on expedition. We have ordered freight to be taken up, and will inform you of date of dispatch.

No. 132.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Consul-General Sadler.

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, October 2, 1899.

WITH reference to my telegram of the 30th ultimo, I have obtained the sanction of the Treasury for the expenses of the expedition in so far as the funds of the Protectorate cannot meet them.

They desire to be furnished by telegraph with an approximate estimate of total local cost per mensem of victualling transport and charges of the same nature in Somaliland, as well as with a statement of the available resources of the Protectorate at the present moment.

No. 133.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Lieutenant Harold.

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, October 2, 1899.

AT Captain Harrington's request following is sent to you :—

You should instruct British Consular Agent at Harrar to inform King Menelek that a small force is being dispatched from India for the purpose of repelling the Dolbahanta Mullah.

Care will of course be taken to restrict all operations within British Protectorate limits.

No. 134.

Foreign Office to India Office.

(Confidential.)

Foreign Office, October 2, 1899.

Sir,

WITH reference to your letter of the 30th ultimo respecting the dispatch of troops from India to Somaliland, I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to state, for the information of the Secretary of State for India, that the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury have consented to defray from Imperial funds the expenses connected with the expedition so far as they cannot be met from the funds of the Protectorate.

A copy of the letter from the Treasury is inclosed.* It will be seen that their Lordships wish to stipulate beforehand that the pay and allowances of the contingent while serving out of India will be at the precise rate prescribed by Indian Regulations. They also wish that an exact estimate may be obtained by telegraph from the Government of India of the pay, &c., of the force per mensem, and also a statement of the cost of transport.

Lord Salisbury will be obliged if Lord George Hamilton will take the necessary steps to obtain from the Government of India the information desired by the Board of Treasury.

I am, &c.

(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

No. 134 A.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 3.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Berbera, October 3, 1899.

REFERRING to your telegram of the 2nd October, the provisioning of the troops must be arranged for in India; the requirements for transport have not as yet reached me. I am unable to guarantee any grass at this season, so that the regiment of cavalry will entail very great transport difficulties, a fact which the General Officer Commanding at Aden has telegraphed to the Bombay Government. As regards financial matters, the Protectorate revenue is above the normal; there is a slight balance on the coast, and we have 148,000 rupees in the bank at Aden. The expedition should be accompanied by twenty sappers with portable search-light, and two Norton's tubes, under Lieutenant Jones, R.E., who was with the Aysa expedition and is now here.

No. 134 B.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Consul-General Sadler.

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, October 3, 1899.

IN continuation of my telegram of the 29th of last month, I have to inform you that a cavalry regiment and four companies of native infantry, to replace those at Aden who will be sent on the expedition, will be supplied by the Indian Government from Bombay.

You will be informed through the Resident when the date is fixed for the departure of the troops from India.

No. 135.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 4.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Berbera, October 4, 1899.

WITH reference to your Lordship's telegram of the 3rd October, the difficulty of arranging for the transport of grass for an entire regiment of cavalry and many transport animals would be very great. Moreover, in the formation of the night position, the followers at the head of the column would have to be taken into consideration. Over 1,200 camels and 600 camelmen are needed for one month's grass alone. Under the circumstances I think that the infantry should predominate, and this view has been represented to the Government of India by the military authorities here, who are of the same opinion.

No. 136.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 4.)

(No. 181.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, October 4, 1899.

SIRDAR informs me that the force to be employed against the Khalifa consists of two infantry brigades, four squadrons of cavalry, eight Maxims, and five companies of camel corps. A portion of this force has already been dispatched to Kaka from Omdurman. The remainder will follow in a few days' time.

The Sirdar should have obtained proper authority for the dispatch of this expedition; I recommend, however, that his proceedings should be approved, as I entertain no objection to the measures on their own merits.

Gedir, which is on the map, is believed to be the place where the Khalifa's camp now is. I think that there is nothing to be done but to trust to the Sirdar's discretion as to how far he should continue to follow the Khalifa if he retires westward, as I find it very difficult to frame any definite instructions.

No. 137.

Foreign Office to Consul-General Sadler.

(No. 97.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 4, 1899.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to transmit to you a copy of a letter from the India Office,* inclosing a communication from the Government of India on the subject of the export duty levied on live stock exported to Aden from the Somali Coast Protectorate.

You will observe that the Government of India consider that a refund of duty should be granted at Aden on all live stock imported from the Protectorate for the use of the Government.

It is true that such an arrangement was suggested by you in 1897 before the transfer of the Protectorate, but when the administration was taken over by the Imperial Govern-

* No. 125.

ment no reason any longer existed for refunding the duties, and you were instructed accordingly in the despatch from this Office No. 8 of the 9th November, 1898.

It appears that the effect of the duty has not yet been reported to the Government of India, but that the loss to the contractors has been estimated at about 5,720 rupees a-year.

I am to request that you will furnish Lord Salisbury with a report showing what loss would be entailed upon the revenues of the Protectorate if the request of the Government of India were acceded to.

I am, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

No. 138.

Foreign Office to Consul-General Sadler.

(No. 98.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 4, 1899.

THE Marquess of Salisbury has had under his consideration, in communication with the Secretary of State for India, your despatch No. 58 of the 22nd July last, regarding the transfer of the securities standing to the credit of the Rer Hared Fund in the Aden Treasury to the name of Her Majesty's Consul-General in the Somali Coast Protectorate.

I am directed by his Lordship to inform you that this arrangement is approved by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

No. 139.

Foreign Office to Treasury.

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 4, 1899.

I HAVE laid before the Marquess of Salisbury your letter of the 27th ultimo, conveying the sanction of the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury to the estimate 5,500*l.* 1*s.* 8*d.*, submitted to them for the maintenance of Captain Harrington's mission to Abyssinia for a period of ten months.

I am to state, for their Lordships' information, that Captain Harrington has been consulted with regard to the necessity of continuing to employ two interpreters.

He has replied that at present it would be absolutely impossible for him to dispense with the services of either of them.

I am, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

No. 140.

Foreign Office to War Office.

(Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 5, 1899.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to transmit to you copies of two telegrams received yesterday from Her Majesty's Consul-General on the Somali Coast,* calling attention to the great difficulty of providing food and forage for the regiment of native cavalry which, at Lord Salisbury's request, based on the recommendations in your letter of the 18th ultimo, the Government of India are preparing to send to Berbera.

I am to point out that since the date of that letter the situation has changed in some important respects. The cavalry regiment was requisitioned with a view to the quick pursuit and capture of the Mollah, but, as reported in Colonel Sadler's telegram of the 29th ultimo, the Mollah has now left Burao and retired to Bohotle, in the extreme south of the Protectorate, where it is impossible to proceed against him, and, therefore, the services of such a large body of cavalry would seem no longer so necessary.

The accompanying copy of a despatch received from Colonel Sadler on the 2nd instant† contains his views as to the troops required to meet the situation. Since this

* Nos. 134 A and 135.

† No. 130.

despatch was written, he has consulted the Resident at Aden, and they have recommended that the infantry to be employed should be raised to two battalions. The total force which they consider requisite would therefore consist of—

- 100 cavalry;
- 2 battalions of native infantry;
- 2 Maxims;
- 20 sappers;
- A portable search-light, and
- 2 Norton's tubes.

Lord Salisbury would be glad to be informed as speedily as possible whether the altered circumstances of the situation modify the views expressed in your letter of the 18th September, and, if so, whether Lord Lansdowne considers that the force now proposed by the Resident at Aden and Colonel Sadler is sufficient to insure the accomplishment of the objects desired, namely, the occupation of Burao and the restoration of order, without the risk of a reverse.

I am, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

No. 141.

Foreign Office to India Office.

(Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 5, 1899.

WITH reference to the letter from this Office of yesterday's date, inclosing copies of two telegrams from Colonel Hayes Sadler with regard to the proposed expedition against the Mollah, I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to transmit to you, for the information of the Secretary of State for India, a copy of a letter which has been addressed to the War Office by this Department,* calling attention to the changed situation owing to the retreat of the Mollah and the difficulties of providing food and forage for a cavalry regiment, and inquiring whether, in these circumstances, the force originally asked for by Colonel Sadler, after consultation with the Resident at Aden, might not be better adapted to the requirements of the situation.

A copy of a further despatch from Colonel Sadler is also inclosed, in which he fully explains his views.†

I am to suggest, if Lord George Hamilton sees no objection, that the departure of the force from India might be postponed until a reply has been received from the War Office to the inclosed letter.

A further communication will be addressed to you as soon as that reply has been received.

I am, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

No. 142.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 9.)

(No. 77. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Aden, September 28, 1899.

FINDING that his Dolbahanta horsemen would not stay any longer so far inside Ishak territory, the Mullah left Odweina and returned to Burao about the 15th instant. His next move was to send a force which attacked the Aysa Musa at Upper Sheikh, burnt the village of the rival religious community situated there, and made off with a quantity of live-stock belonging to the Aysa Musa. About fifteen of the Aysa Musa were killed, and the Mullah's force lost seven or eight persons killed. The above was verified by a party of the Camel Corps which I sent out under the Ressaldar to reconnoitre at Upper Sheikh.

In my telegram of the 20th and 22nd instant I informed your Lordship of the strength of the force which, according to military opinion here it would be necessary to employ for the operations suggested in my telegram of the 12th instant, with which military opinion here was generally in accord.

* No. 140.

† No. 130.

This force is put down at 100 cavalry, 25 sappers, and two battalions of infantry, with two Maxims. As no grass will be obtainable at this season of the year, all supplies will have to be carried and provision made for water in places, some 1,200 to 1,300 camels will be required, and it is for the conveying of transport beyond Upper Sheikh, the establishment of a strong post at Upper Sheikh, and of intermediate posts between Upper Sheikh and Burao, that one of the two battalions of infantry will be required. The carriage of grass for the horses of the cavalry adds enormously to our difficulties, but cavalry we must have.

Up to the 22nd there was no change in the situation. I am every moment expecting despatches from Berbera, but it is doubtful if they arrive in time to be dealt with by this mail. Any news of importance will be submitted to your Lordship by telegram.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

No. 143.

Sir F. Plunkett to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 9.)

(No. 194. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Brussels, October 7, 1899.

WHEN I was with M. de Cuvelier this afternoon, I took the opportunity of inviting his attention to the article, herewith inclosed, from the "Métropole" of Antwerp, respecting the ivory raiding expedition which is said to be proceeding from the Congo State into the Bahr-el-Ghazal, and I reminded him of the warning I had given him in May and June of this year that Her Majesty's Government would not recognize the right of the King to take action of this nature in that country.

M. de Cuvelier inquired whether this was an official communication which I had been instructed by your Lordship to make, or only a friendly hint coming from myself.

I said that I had not yet called your Lordship's attention to the article from the "Métropole," but that I knew I was faithfully expressing your views in warning the Congolese Government that Her Majesty's Government would not recognize the right of the King to authorize an expedition into the Bahr-el-Ghazal, under the pretence of the lease of 1894, to seize whatever dépôts of ivory might still exist there.

I reminded him that the battle of Omdurman had made great changes since the Convention of 1894 was signed, and that I had expressly warned the King and the Congo Government in May and June last that one result of that campaign was to revive the rights of Egypt, through British intervention, over the Bahr-el-Ghazal.

M. de Cuvelier would not admit the correctness of our contention, but said he had no authority to discuss the question with me at present.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. R. PLUNKETT.

Inclosure in No. 143.

Extract from the "Patriote" of October 7, 1899.

LA "Métropole," feuille favorable au Congo, dit à ce sujet :—

"Malgré l'excitation créée par les affaires du Transvaal, la presse Anglaise ne se désintéresse pas du Bahr-el-Ghazal et signale bruyamment une invasion Belge dans cette région, contraire, prétend-elle, aux Traités.

"Il s'agit tout simplement de l'expédition Chaltin et de la Mission de la Société Générale Africaine. Cette Société a été fondée il y a dix-huit mois à Bruxelles, au capital de 30 millions; elle a envoyé de Matadi une expédition de 300 soldats et 700 porteurs, sous le commandement d'un ancien sous-officier, M. de Backer. Cette expédition opérerait, dit-on, sa jonction avec la colonne Chaltin, dans le Bahr-el-Ghazal, et s'emparerait des stocks d'ivoire qui s'y trouvent.

"Le départ du Commandant Chaltin pour le Bahr-el-Ghazal a fait l'objet de plusieurs démentis officiels. Il paraît qu'elle se vérifie aujourd'hui. On commence à voir clair, mais il a fallu voir pour croire.

"L'État démentira-t-il encore? Si oui, on se demandera avec raison dans quel but il continue un jeu de cache-cache auquel plus personne ne se laisse prendre."

No. 144.

Sir F. Plunkett to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 9.)

(No. 197.)

My Lord,

Brussels, October 8, 1899.

NOT only M. de Cuvelier, but also one of my diplomatic colleagues, has pressed me this last week to tell them what view Her Majesty's Government now take of the Anglo-Congolese Convention of the 12th May, 1894. Is that Convention still considered to be in force, or not?

The reason for the colleague asking the question was that he imagines the King will take advantage of our difficulties in the Transvaal to push his occupation of the Bahr-el-Ghazal. M. de Cuvelier asked me the question, but only in his personal name, during the conversation reported in my despatch No. 194, Confidential, of yesterday's date.

I have replied to both that the battle of Omdurman has made many changes, and had revived the claims of Egypt, and that the moment was not now opportune for raising further discussion.

As this question will probably be pressed on me again, I shall be grateful to hear whether this reply is approved.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. R. PLUNKETT.

No. 145.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 9.)

(No. 185.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, October 9, 1899.

EXPEDITION against Khalifa: I have authorized the Sirdar to leave Khartoum to-morrow in command of the Egyptian forces.

No. 146.

Sir F. Plunkett to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 12.)

(No. 199.)

My Lord,

Brussels, October 11, 1899.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 194, Confidential, of the 7th instant, I have the honour to inclose what has the appearance of being a semi-official Declaration of the Congo State Government published in the "Étoile Belge" of this morning.

It affirms that the Sovereign of the Congo State has not dispatched any expedition to occupy the Bahr-el-Ghazal in his name, and is not preparing any military expedition in view of such occupation.

Your Lordship will notice that this does not allude to the so-called commercial expedition under M. de Backer, to which we have every reason to believe Captain Chaltin, of the Congo State service, is to give aid and assistance, and in which the Sovereign of the Congo State is said to be personally largely interested as shareholder in the Company sending the expedition.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. R. PLUNKETT.

Inclosure in No. 146.

Extract from the "Étoile Belge" of October 11, 1899.

LE Souverain de l'État du Congo n'a envoyé aucune expédition chargée d'occuper en son nom Bahr-el-Ghazal. Il n'a aucune expédition militaire en préparation en vue d'occuper le Bahr-el-Ghazal.

No. 144*.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 9.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Aden, October 9, 1899.

REPORTS are confirmed that the following of the Mullah has dispersed. The Mullah is said to have moved towards the eastern portion of the Dolbahanta, but news is vague and meagre. It is reported that the nearer tribes are anxious to come in.

To control the tribes and to quash influence of Mullah I still consider it necessary to occupy Burao. Opposition is not likely to be met, but we have to guard against the contingency of the Mullah moving north again.

It is no longer necessary to retain a man-of-war at Berbera.

I am anxious as soon as possible to return to the coast.

No. 147.

Foreign Office to India Office.

(Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 12, 1899.

I HAVE laid before the Marquess of Salisbury your letter of the 11th instant, inclosing copy of a telegram from the Viceroy inquiring whether two transports, taken up to convey cavalry to Berbera, may now be released.

I am directed by his Lordship to state, for the information of Lord George Hamilton, that as the situation has materially altered in regard to the fanatical Mollah, and the last telegram from Her Majesty's Consul-General on the Somali Coast is to the effect that the Mollah's following is dispersing, Lord Salisbury has therefore decided that a regiment of cavalry will not be wanted, and that the force of cavalry to be employed may be restricted to 100.

His Lordship is still awaiting the views of the War Office as to the force of infantry which should be sent to Berbera.

I am, &c.
(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

No. 148.

Admiralty to Foreign Office.—(Received October 13.)

Sir,

Admiralty, October 13, 1899.

I AM commanded by my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty to transmit, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, copy of a telegram dated the 12th instant from the Commander-in-chief on the East Indies Station respecting state of affairs in Somaliland.

I am, &c.
(Signed) EVAN MACGREGOR.

Inclosure in No. 148.

Rear-Admiral Bosanquet to Admiralty.

(Telegraphic.)

Trincomalee, October 12, 1899.

FOLLOWING telegram received from "Pomone":—

"Everything is quiet. No further apprehension of disturbances. Presence of a war-ship no longer necessary. Her Majesty's Consul-General at Berbera concurs.

"'Pomone' has been instructed to return to Aden."

No. 149.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received October 14.)

Sir,

India Office, October 14, 1899.

WITH reference to recent correspondence on the subject of dispatching certain of Her Majesty's Indian forces to the Somali Coast, Lord George Hamilton has had under his consideration the question whether, in the event of these forces being ordered to proceed to Africa, the case would be one to which section 54 of Act 21 and 22 Vict., cap. 106, would be applicable, requiring due communication of the fact to both Houses of Parliament.

The view which his Lordship holds on this subject is that the section in question does not apply to the present case, on the ground that an order directing Indian troops to be sent to Somaliland, to be used there for the security of British-protected territory and property, and not for the invasion of foreign territory, is not an order "directing the actual commencement of hostilities," although the troops may have to fight.

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Section 55 of the same Act is obviously not applicable, as it has not been proposed to defray the cost of any military operations that may be undertaken out of Indian revenues.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. GODLEY.

No. 150.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received October 14.)

(Confidential.)

Sir,

India Office, October 14, 1899.

I AM directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th October, and, in reply, to forward herewith, for the information of the Marquess of Salisbury, copy of a telegram which has been addressed to the Viceroy of India.

I am, &c.
(Signed) F. WHITMORE SMITH,
Assistant Military Secretary.

Inclosure in No. 150.

Lord G. Hamilton to the Government of India.

(Telegraphic.)

India Office, October 13, 1899.

YOUR telegram of 11th October, Somaliland. One hundred cavalry only will be required instead of cavalry regiment. Further information regarding infantry will be sent later. Possibly two battalions will be required.

No. 151.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 14.)

(No. 187.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, October 14, 1899.

THE Sirdar telegraphed as follows last night from Goz Abu Goma :—

"I hope to reach Kaka about the 16th instant. As mounted troops will have to be brought up by steamer for the last 50 miles it will take some days to concentrate the force. From Kaka to the Khalifa's position will be an eight days' march. According to recent reports the Khalifa is at Gerada, near Gedir, where he intends to remain. Accounts of the road and Khalifa's position are far from satisfactory from our point of view."

I have sent the following reply to this telegram :—

"You may rely on full support whatever course you adopt. You must decide what to do."

No. 152.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 16.)

(No. 78.)

My Lord,

Aden, October 1, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to solicit a reference to my despatch No. 41 of the 15th May last.

I have as yet received no reply from the Governor of Jibuti on the subject of the claims preferred on the Administration of the French Settlement in connection with the late raid in the British Protectorate, although I wrote again in August last inviting the Governor's attention to the matter.

In the meanwhile the tribes have been several times to the Acting Consul at Zeyla pressing for an early settlement.

The only reply Lieutenant Harold could give them was that their claims had been registered after due inquiry, and that the matter was under reference with the Administration of Jibuti.

I now hear from Lieutenant Harold that during the last fortnight three deputations have come to him asking for the payment of their claims. There has been a partial failure of rain in the Zeyla district, the tribes are becoming impatient at the delay that has occurred in giving them what they rightly consider the compensation due to them, and there is some fear that if further delay occurs they may proceed themselves to Jibuti and try and effect a settlement there, which would be most undesirable in every way. Lieutenant Harold writes that the matter is becoming urgent.

I consider it desirable to avoid the discontent which further delay in the payment of these claims would undoubtedly cause; I have accordingly authorized the Acting Consul to disburse the two amounts of 5,432 rupees, on account of compensation to the families of the killed and wounded during the raid, and 405 rupees on account of property lost, to the parties concerned from Protectorate revenues.

These disbursements will be treated as "advances recoverable."

I trust that this action, which I consider necessary under the circumstances, may meet with your Lordship's approval.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

No. 153.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 16.)

(No. 79. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Aden, October 4, 1899.

IN my telegram of the 29th ultimo I had the honour of communicating to your Lordship the latest information regarding the Mullah's movements.

On the 23rd ultimo reports were received in Berbera that the force had retired to Ber; on the 26th information was received that the Mullah had evacuated Ber, and was well on his way to Bohotele; and the following day Somalis coming in from Ber reported that place as deserted.

At Ber the Mahmood Girad horsemen left the Mullah in a body. Two conflicting reasons are given for their departure. According to one account, their horses are worn out with want of fodder, and they left to get fresh horses from the Dolbahanta. The other report is that they left the Mullah in disgust, calling him a fraud. They had, they said, been told they would be taken to Berbera, and had been promised loot, which they never got. They had also been told that bullets could not hurt them, and that no harm would come to them, whereas two of their number had been killed at Sheikh by one Aysa Musa bullet, and a number of Dolbahanta men had been seized and taken prisoners to Berbera. Taken in conjunction with the Mullah's retrograde move, the latter reason is the more probable.

The following from the Habr Toljaala are reported to have dispersed to their karias in the neighbourhood of Ber; Sultan Nur is said to have fallen out with the Mullah, and to have moved with the Musa Ismail and some of the Rer Yusuf to their usual haunts in the Arori plain, and the only people now with the Mullah are probably the Aligheri, who inhabit the country round about Bohotele, and a few of the principal men of the Adan Madoba, who are his chief advisers.

There are reports, which have not yet been confirmed, that Sultan Yusuf Ali, of the Mijjertein, hearing that the Mullah had sent his Karia to Lasader, aware of the trouble he had brought on the people, and fearing that he might move further east and establish himself near him, had warned his subjects not to allow his Karia in or near their country, and that the Mullah, on this news reaching him, at once recalled his Karia to Bohotele.

The Girad Farih, the Chief of the Dolbahanta, has lately sent in a caravan to Berbera with a letter and message. The letter was illegible, but the message was to the effect that his old relations with us remained unchanged, though, owing to the civil influence of the Mullah, his orders were no longer obeyed in the Dolbahanta. It seems very doubtful whether the Girad has received letters which I sent him on two occasions. The Mullah is said to be much incensed against him, and to have threatened to proceed against him.

All this points to a probable revulsion of feeling against this fanatic in the

eastern Darod country, and if I am able to get in some of the principal Dolbahanta sections, one of his lines of retreat through the Ain Valley eastwards may possibly be cut off.

The Habr Toljaala have gained nothing by this movement, whilst they have had to contribute largely in the matter of provisions. For the last month Berbera has been practically closed to them for supplies; they are now said to be seeking a way out of their difficulties, and though I can as yet be by no means certain of their attitude, influenced as they are by Duali Elmi, the Headman of the Rer Yusuf, I do not anticipate that they will of themselves offer any opposition to our expedition. They are far more likely to come in and ask to be forgiven.

As to the Mullah's intentions, it is impossible to express any definite opinion. I doubt if he knows himself what he will do. If left to himself it does not seem likely that he will contemplate another move northwards till the next spring rains. His move against the western Habr Yunis was not altogether a success, and the combination of tribes west of Odweina must have shown him that he is not likely to meet with a favourable reception in that direction.

We cannot, however, allow him a free hand over the tribes in our hinterland any longer, and it is just as important that we should occupy Burao and settle the Habr Toljaala country now that the Mullah has retreated south, as it was when he occupied Burao.

It is just possible that as a final effort to maintain his position and retain his hold over the tribes who have so far followed him, the Mullah may proclaim a jihad when we advance.

How far such a call would be responded to would, of course, depend on the temper of the southern tribes, which is not likely to be definitely ascertained till we get to Burao. I should, however, say that none but the remoter tribes, such as the Aligheri, who do not know our power, would answer such a call, and with them it would be doubtful.

Now that he is back again in the Dolbahanta he is in a more favourable position to collect a large following than he was at Burao. He might, under the most favourable conditions, get together a following of up to 10,000 men, which he would be unable to keep together for more than a few days. I do not, however, think it probable either that he will raise a jihad, or that if he does he will succeed in getting together such a number of followers as that noted above, both because, apart from his own preaching, the religious sense of the country would be opposed to such a call, and because his principal advisers, being men from, or acquainted with, Aden, and aware of our resources, would know that any effectual opposition to our arms would be hopeless.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

No. 154.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 16.)

(No. 80.)

My Lord,

Aden, October 4, 1899.

I VENTURED to telegraph to your Lordship to-day, and suggest that, owing to the difficulties which the transport of grass would undoubtedly entail if a whole regiment of native cavalry be employed on the expedition, it would, in my opinion, be desirable that the infantry should predominate; that this was the view held here by the military authorities; and that they had represented this view to the Government of India.

As a matter of fact no grass can be guaranteed between Berbera and Burao; the year is a dry one, and the little grass there was south of Sheikh has been consumed by the Mullah's horsemen. Rain is reported to have fallen at Sheikh, but I have no information yet as to the extent or how far it will affect the question of fodder.

Consequently the carriage of grass for a regiment of native cavalry would be a very serious difficulty, and would add largely to the number of transport animals and followers, and considerably enhance the cost of the expedition.

Subsequently to the dispatch of this telegram the General Officer Commanding at Aden received a wire from the Lieutenant-General commanding Bombay asking whether I concurred in the proposals which the General Officer Commanding at Aden

had submitted by despatch on the 24th ultimo as to the composition of the force to be employed on the expedition, which I communicated to your Lordship in my telegrams of the 20th and 22nd, and my despatch No. 77 of the 28th ultimo.

To this the General Officer Commanding at Aden has, with my consent, sent the following reply :—

“The Consul-General concurred entirely with my proposals as to the composition of force with the exception of the second battalion, in regard to which his opinion is that if it is necessary from a military point of view it should be sent. I consider it necessary as already explained.”

These proposals were made partly before and partly after my arrival here; they were framed on the information I supplied as to the political situation and the character of the country, and were formulated before the composition of the force had been settled by the War Office.

As previously stated, the opinion held here is that one battalion of infantry will be required to establish a post at Upper Sheikh, with intermediate posts between there and Burao, and to convoy the large number of transport animals that will be required.

If the War Office would be inclined to reconsider the composition of the force, I am certainly of opinion that a reduction in the cavalry and an increase to the infantry would be more suited to the present conditions of the country.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

No. 155.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 16.)

(No. 81. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Aden, October 5, 1899.

I HAVE already intimated in previous despatches the general plan of operations I would propose for the expeditionary force. These were to oust the Mullah from Burao, drive him back if he moved westwards, occupy Burao, and leaving a strong post there move through the Habr Toljaala country.

The fact of the Mullah having left Burao and retreated south will not materially affect this general plan of action. The first object of the expedition must be to occupy Burao. In the meanwhile I shall call in the Headmen of the principal sections of the Habr Toljaala, and make such arrangements as may be necessary to withdraw the tribes from the pernicious influence of this Mullah and settle that part of the country.

How far we shall be able to move through the Habr Toljaala country, and in what strength, will depend upon the circumstances as we find them on reaching Burao, and must, to a great extent, be dependent on the available water supply.

Any move beyond Ber, 20 miles south of Burao, will be very difficult with regular troops owing to the absence of proper water; I would propose to report by telegraph from Burao, in consultation with the Officer Commanding the expedition, as to whether a further advance south is to be recommended on the conditions as we find them.

It is with a view to search for water that the supply of two Norton's tubes has been suggested.

With regard to my dealings with the Habr Toljaala and other tribes round Burao it has to be borne in mind that these tribes are aware that they have incurred our displeasure, and that if they think operations are directed against them they will flee ahead of us with their flocks, and either get into an inaccessible part of the country or go straight over to the Mullah. This is a contingency I am particularly anxious to avoid. I, therefore, do not propose any punitive operations against tribes not actually found in arms with the Mullah.

I would propose, with your Lordship's approval, to issue a Proclamation to the tribes concerned previous to the departure of the expedition, stating that the object of the expedition is to restore order in the Habr Toljaala and Habr Yunis country, and calling upon the Headmen of the principal sections to come in to me at Burao, adding that there will be "aman" for all who come in, but that tribes who do not

send in their Headmen or who run away from us will be considered as hostile to the Government.

With regard to Sultan Nur, it is very doubtful whether he should be again recognized by us, and the western Habr Yunis, who have held aloof from this movement, would now probably refuse to acknowledge him.

Had the Mullah held fast at Burao or moved westwards, the employment of friendlies might have been useful. Under present conditions they would only hamper me in dealing with the Habr Toljaala and eastern Habr Yunis, and in the general settlement of the country; it would be difficult to restrain them from committing reprisals at a distance from the line of march, and were they to accompany us, I should have difficulty in getting the tribes to come in. I would, therefore, not employ friendlies on this expedition; and for other reasons it is better that we should depend on our own resources.

It will be desirable to recoup the friendlies for the loss they have suffered at the hands of the Mullah's followers, also certain of our officials, who have been looted solely because they are in our service. This will best be done, after the claims have been carefully investigated, by putting a punitive tax on all Habr Toljaala, eastern Habr Yunis, and Dolbahanta camels entering our ports; 2 rupees per camel is the amount I should at present be inclined to fix.

I consider, also, that a portion of the expenses of the expedition should be recovered in the same manner; but on this point the question as to how long the tax can continue to be imposed will have to be taken into account with trade considerations.

I propose to give the tribes to clearly understand that if they have any further dealings with the Mullah they will be considered as hostile to the Administration, and will be dealt with as such. Over many of them we could exercise an effective control by the threat of a blockade of the refractory tribe in both Aden and Berbera, besides inflicting loss on them in their live-stock.

The Resident at Aden is quite in accord with that part of these proposals which relates to the operations of the expeditionary force and the non-employment of friendlies.

I venture to ask that I may be informed by telegram if the line of procedure noted in this despatch meets with your Lordship's approval.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

No. 156.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 16.)

(No. 185.)

My Lord,

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship copies of two Orders, putting in force the Soudan Code of Criminal Procedure and the Soudan Penal Code, which after having received the sanction of the Council of Ministers, have been published in the "Official Journal" of the 4th instant.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CROMER.

Inclosure in No. 156.

Extract from the Egyptian "Journal Officiel" of October 4, 1899.

An Order putting the Soudan Code of Criminal Procedure in Force.

WHEREAS a Soudan Code of Criminal Procedure, a copy of which is hereto annexed, has been prepared, and copies thereof have been, or will shortly be, placed at the Mudirihs and Governorates; and whereas the Code is expressed to take effect in such parts of the Soudan as the Governor-General may from time to time by Notice

published in the "Soudan Gazette" order; and whereas the judicial administration of the country is not yet completely organized;

It is hereby ordered as follows:

1. The said Soudan Code of Criminal Procedure shall, subject to the later provisions of this Order, take effect in the Provinces of Khartoum, Dongola, Berber, and Sennaar, and in the districts of Wady Halfa and Suakin, as from the 2nd day of October, 1899, or from the date (if later) at which copies thereof shall be placed in the hands of the officers charged with the administration thereof.

2. Until further order, the following provisions shall take effect:—

(1.) The provisions of the Code relating to any act or proceedings to be done or taken by or before any Magistrate or Court shall be applied with such modifications not affecting the substance as, in the opinion of the Magistrate or Court, the circumstances may render necessary.

(2.) The duties under the Code of police officers and of Mamurs acting as Magistrates of the third class shall be performed according to instructions, conformable to the spirit of the Code, to be issued, with due regard to all the circumstances of the case, by the Mudir or Governor of each province or district.

(3.) Cases awaiting trial at the date as from which the Code comes into force shall, so far as circumstances admit, be disposed of in accordance with the provisions of the Code.

(4.) Copies of the Code shall be open to inspection at the Mudirieh or Governorate of each of the said provinces and districts.

(Signed) KITCHENER OF KHARTOUM,
Governor-General.

Arrêté rendant exécutoire le Code de Procédure Criminelle du Soudan.

Attendu qu'un Code de Procédure Criminelle pour le Soudan, dont ci-joint un exemplaire, a été préparé, et que des exemplaires en ont été ou seront prochainement déposés aux Moudiries et Gouvernorats; attendu qu'il est stipulé que ce Code entrera en vigueur dans telles parties du Soudan que le Gouverneur-Général pourrait désigner, de temps à autre, par un Avis publié dans la "Soudan Gazette," et attendu que l'administration judiciaire du pays n'est pas complètement organisée:

Il est arrêté ce qui suit:

1. Le dit Code de Procédure Criminelle du Soudan sera, sous les restrictions des dispositions finales du présent Arrêté, exécutoire dans les provinces de Khartoum, Dongola, Berber, et Sennaar, et les districts de Wady-Halfa et Suakin, à partir du 2 Octobre, 1899, ou du jour (s'il suit cette date) où les exemplaires de ce Code seront remis aux officiers chargés de l'administration de ces provinces.

2. Jusqu'à nouvel ordre, les dispositions suivantes seront observées:—

(1.) Les Articles du Code relatifs aux actes devant être accomplis par un Magistrat ou une Cour quelconque ainsi que la procédure à suivre devant ces juridictions subiront, dans leur application, telles modifications n'affectant pas la substance de la loi, que le Magistrat ou la Cour jugera nécessaire d'y apporter en égard aux circonstances.

(2.) Les officiers de police et Mamours, agissant comme Magistrats de la troisième classe, se conformeront, en ce qui concerne l'exercice des attributions que leur confère le Code, aux instructions qui leur seront données par le Moudir ou le Gouverneur de chaque province ou district conformément à l'esprit du Code et après examen de toutes les circonstances du fait.

(3.) Les causes non encore jugées au moment où le Code deviendra exécutoire seront, autant que les circonstances le permettront, vidées conformément aux dispositions de ce Code.

(4.) Des exemplaires du Code seront déposés aux Moudiries et Gouvernorats des provinces et districts précités où le public pourra en prendre connaissance.

Approuvé par le Conseil des Ministres dans sa séance du Samedi, 30 Septembre, 1899.

Le Président du Conseil des Ministres,
(Signé) MOUSTAPHA FEHMY.

An Order putting the Soudan Penal Code in Force.

Whereas a Soudan Penal Code, a copy of which is hereto annexed, has been prepared, and copies thereof have been, or will shortly be, placed at the Mudiriehs and Governorates; and whereas such Code is expressed to take effect in such parts of the Soudan as the Governor-General may from time to time by Notice published in the "Soudan Gazette" order:

It is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. The said Soudan Penal Code shall take effect in the Provinces of Khartoum, Dongola, Berber, and Sennaar, and the districts of Wady-Halfa and Suakin as from the 2nd day of October, 1899, or from the date (if later) at which copies thereof may be placed in the hands of the officers charged with the administration thereof.

2. All offences committed prior to the date as from which the Code takes effect and awaiting trial at that date shall, if punishable under the Code, be punished in accordance with its provisions.

3. Copies of the Code shall be open to inspection at the Mudiriehs and Governorates of the said provinces and districts.

(Signed) KITCHENER OF KHARTOUM,
Governor-General.

Arrêté rendant exécutoire le Code Pénal du Soudan.

Attendu qu'un Code Pénal pour le Soudan, dont ci-joint un exemplaire, a été préparé, et que des exemplaires en ont été ou seront prochainement déposés aux Moudiriehs et aux Gouvernorats, et attendu qu'il est stipulé que ce Code entrera en vigueur dans telles parties du Soudan que le Gouverneur-Général pourrait désigner, de temps à autre, par un Avis publié dans le "Soudan Gazette,"

Il est arrêté ce qui suit:

1. Le dit Code Pénal du Soudan sera exécutoire dans les Provinces de Khartoum, Dongola, Berber, et Sennaar, et les districts de Wady Halfa et Souakin, à partir du 2 Octobre, 1899, ou du jour (s'il suit cette date) où les exemplaires de ce Code seront remis aux officiers chargés de l'administration de ces provinces.

2. Toutes les infractions commises antérieurement au jour où le Code sera devenu obligatoire et non encore jugées à ce moment seront, si elles restent punissables aux termes de ce Code, jugées conformément à ses dispositions.

Des exemplaires du Code seront déposés aux Moudiriehs et Gouvernorats des provinces et districts précités où le public pourra en prendre connaissance.

Approuvé par le Conseil des Ministres dans sa séance du Samedi, 30 September, 1899.

Le Président du Conseil des Ministres,
(Signé) MOUSTAPHA FEHMY.

No. 157.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir F. Plunkett.

(No. 119. Africa. Confidential.)
Sir,

Foreign Office, October 16, 1899.

THE Italian Ambassador at this Court told Sir Martin Gosselin on the 5th instant that the Marquis Imperiali, Italian Chargé d'Affaires at Brussels, had recently had a conversation with an Under-Secretary at the Congo Ministry for Foreign Affairs (his Excellency could neither remember nor recognize the name), on the reported advance of Congo troops into the Bahr-el-Ghazal Province; the Marquis Imperiali gathered from the conversation that the Congo Government considered themselves to possess a perfect right, under the Agreement of 1894, to occupy the whole province.

M. de Renzis professed ignorance as to whether any steps were being taken by the

No. 156*.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 16.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Aden, October 16, 1899.

THE Mullah is in position last reported, apparently inactive. No further developments have occurred. Many of the refractory tribes are sending deputations into Berbera.

Congo Government to establish themselves in the Bahr-el-Ghazal; but, as he had recently heard from "a high English official" that Her Majesty's Government contested this view, he thought that Marquis Imperiali's remarks would be of interest.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 158.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received October 18.)

Sir, *India Office, October 17, 1899.*
IN continuation of the letter from this Office of the 14th October, I am directed to forward herewith, for the information of the Marquess of Salisbury, copy of a telegram which has been received from the Viceroy of India.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. STEDMAN, *Major-General,*
Military Secretary.

Inclosure in No. 158.

Government of India to Lord G. Hamilton.

YOUR telegram of the 13th October. Berbera. We can send 100 cavalry at once, if it be desired. No native infantry have been sent yet, except reliefs, but remainder 10th Bombay Infantry can be sent from Aden, when relieved by 5th Bombay Infantry. We should be glad to receive definite instructions as soon as possible.

No. 159.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Viscount Cromer.

(No. 104.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, October 18, 1899.

I UNDERSTAND from your Lordship's telegram No. 189 of the 17th October that Mr. Harrington wishes to be informed whether he cannot be authorized to make some further communication to the Emperor Menelek, when he returns to Abyssinia, as regards both the eastern and southern frontiers.

The necessity of obtaining the concurrence of Italy before making a definite agreement as to the eastern frontier somewhat hampers us in discussing that part of the question.

You will be able, however, to judge whether Menelek's proposal could be safely accepted by Her Majesty's Government, pending the arrangement of details, as a provisional boundary.

The matter of the southern frontier is one of more difficulty. Although the proposal made by Menelek is not satisfactory, we have no means at present of enforcing our claims by effective occupation of the territory.

In the meantime, I am consulting experts on this question, but beyond saying that the Emperor's proposal is under consideration, I do not see that Mr. Harrington can make any statement at present.

No. 160.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir F. Plunkett.

(No. 120. Africa.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 18, 1899.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 197, Africa, of the 8th instant, reporting the language held by you to M. de Cuvelier and to one of your colleagues respecting the Anglo-Congolese Convention of 1894.

I approve the terms in which you replied to their inquiries on the subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 161.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir F. Plunkett.

(No. 121. Africa.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 18, 1899.

I HAVE to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 194, Africa, of the 7th instant, reporting a conversation which you had had with M. de Cuvelier on the subject of the Bahr-el-Ghazal.

I approve your language on the occasion in question as reported.

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 162.

War Office to Foreign Office.—(Received October 19.)

Sir,

War Office, October 18, 1899.

IN reply to your letter of the 5th instant, inclosing copies of further telegrams which have been received from the Consul-General of the Somali Coast, together with a copy of his despatch of the 14th ultimo, I am directed by the Secretary of State for War to acquaint you, for the information of the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, that in view of the difficulty which the Consul-General appears to anticipate in obtaining a sufficiency of grass on the Somali plateau at this season, Lord Lansdowne is prepared to agree to the reduction of the cavalry, previously recommended in War Office letter of the 18th ultimo, to 100 men as recommended by the Consul-General, after consultation with the Resident at Aden, in his despatch of the 14th ultimo.

I am, however, to observe that the question under consideration appears to have entirely changed in character since your letter was written. From Colonel Sadler's telegram of the 9th instant, Lord Lansdowne gathers that all immediate danger has disappeared, that no resistance is to be anticipated, and that, in fact, in order to re-establish British influence in the hinterland of the Somali Protectorate all that is now necessary is to march a small force as far as Burao, and to occupy that place until complete order is restored. In these altered circumstances, I am to state that his Lordship hardly feels any longer called upon to express any opinion respecting the strength of the force which may be required—this question being one which might perhaps more conveniently be arranged between the Foreign Office and the Consul-General; but I am to say that, in the event of the Mollah reappearing later on with a force of Dolbahanta men at his back numbering from 8,000 to 10,000, a contingency which, though perhaps remote, was considered by the Consul-General, according to the statement in his telegram of the 29th ultimo, to be not impossible, Lord Lansdowne is of opinion that the force mentioned in the letter under reply should certainly be sufficient to accomplish the occupation of Burao, and probably the complete restoration of order without risk of a reverse.

I have, &c.

(Signed) N. H. KNOX.

No. 163.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Consul-General Sadler.

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, October 19, 1899.

I AM in receipt of your telegram of yesterday's date.

Taking into consideration the demands for the employment of Her Majesty's forces elsewhere, I have come to the conclusion that any expedition against the Mollah or among the tribes must be postponed, and that operations must in any case be restricted to the occupation of Burao.

If you remain of opinion that such occupation is really necessary, please state what force you require for this purpose beyond that already at your disposal.

No. 164.

Memorandum by Sir A. Hardinge.

I THINK Menelek's proposals rather audacious. He shoves our northern frontier two parallels of latitude back, and annexes Lake Stephanie, Reshiat, and the whole or two-thirds of Boran. He talks about "effective occupation"; but (a) he is not a party to the Berlin Conference, and (b) his effective occupation consists of the establishment of a few posts by raiding parties, who make no attempt at forming a settled or regular Government and administration, but simply pillage the tribes and steal cattle and slaves.

Tippoo Tib and Rumaliza might equally have claimed recognition as a State from the Powers when they set up the Arab Power in the east of the Congo Free State, and, from a humanitarian point of view, with more right, for the Congo Arabs were gentlemen compared with the Rasas who lead Menelek's raiding parties.* It would be a thousand pities to surrender Boran to these people.

Afulata, as you know, is most anxious for our protection, and keen to trade with Kismayu.

The Abyssinians will, I expect, find the water their great difficulty in operating on a hostile country as Boran would be, for we know how the Gallas detest them; nor is this surprising when one reflects that they only appear to kill, mutilate, and enslave them so that Menelek may make a little money by shipping them in French dhows to Arabia.

If, however, we are prepared to compromise, we might accept a middle term between our original frontier with Italy and the line which Menelek persuaded Harrington to recommend. We might, I should think, make our line run from the junction of the Dawa and the Juba (the point where the Intelligence Department suggested a station in 1897) and follow the river to, say, parallel 5, whence the frontier could be drawn westward so as to include in our sphere Reshiat and all Stephanie. This would give Menelek Konso and Amara in which he has, I believe, already some forts, but would take most of Afulata's country into our sphere; and probably once the frontier was fixed many nomad and pastoral Gallas would come over for safety to our side of it.

I think, on the assumption that we do not mean to be entirely ousted from Boran, the above compromise or something like it should be our "irreducible minimum."

(Signed) ARTHUR H. HARDINGE.

*South Park, Penshurst, Kent,
October 20, 1899.*

* The provisions of the Berlin Act in regard to effective occupation only apply to the African coast.—H. F.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 20.)

(No. 190.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, October 20, 1899.

ABYSSINIAN frontiers.

The course of affairs in the Transvaal will probably render Harrington's negotiations more easy to carry on, but I think it would be well to instruct him not to press matters. If, however, he is obliged to enter into a discussion with King Menelek, it seems necessary to give him a discretionary power to speak, in order to avoid putting him in an awkward position, which would incur a loss of influence with the King.

I propose, therefore, to instruct him to tell Menelek, if obliged, that we agree to the line proposed for the eastern frontier provisionally, pending the settlement of details.

The delimitation of that frontier cannot be carried on until our boundary with Erythræa, to the east and south of Kassala, has been fixed, and negotiations with this object are now in progress at Rome.

The demarcation of the frontier in the Sobat and Fazokli countries depends on tribal divisions, and survey parties are being sent to ascertain these. As to Metemmeh there could be no harm in putting forward the solution suggested by Sir R. Rodd in his despatch No. 149 of the 10th August.

With regard to the southern frontier, I would suggest that Harrington should be authorized to state that further communications will be made on the subject, while avoiding pledging himself to any particular line. It is always to be apprehended that the Abyssinians will continue to advance southwards, if nothing is said. If, however, he can manage to bring Menelek to put forward fresh suggestions of a more advantageous nature than those he made before, he might take note of them and report them.

Does your Lordship agree?

No. 166.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Viscount Cromer.

(No. 108.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, October 20, 1899.

I HAVE received your telegram No. 190 of the 20th respecting the Abyssinian frontier, and I approve your suggestions for instructions to Mr. Harrington as to the attitude he should observe in his interviews with King Menelek on this subject.

No. 167.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 22.)

(No. 193.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, October 22, 1899.

THE Sirdar telegraphs from Goz Abu Goma, under date of the 21st October, as follows:—

"The remarkable dryness of the season has dried up the water on the roads previously reconnoitred, and I consequently resolved to proceed by the Fungor route to Gedir instead, as I learn from cavalry reconnaissances that there is plenty of water at Fungor, and the country presents few difficulties, although it is rather inclosed. Fungor is 50 miles from the river, and I have arranged water stations along the road, this stretch being otherwise waterless. I count on getting the entire force concentrated at Fungor by the 25th instant; one battalion has gone there from the river to-day. By the 28th we ought to be in contact with the enemy.

"The latest information I have received is five days old, and encourages me to hope that the Khalifa will not have moved from his position before we come up. At that time he was ignorant of our advance, and I am keeping everything as secret as possible. The troops are all well, and the concentration here was effected most satisfactorily.

"Unless any unexpected incident occurs, I will send news from Gedir by messengers to the end of the telegraph."

No. 166*.

*Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 22.)**Aden, October 22, 1899.*

(Telegraphic.) P.

It would be desirable to take 11 cavalry and 600 infantry with 20 sappers to occupy Burao. There are only 50 infantry available at Berbera.

It is not absolutely necessary to occupy Burao, but a show of force for a month or six weeks among the nearer tribes is necessary. In the latter case we could reduce the infantry to 300. The force should be composed of selected Mahommedans.

I can manage for the present if troops cannot be spared, but it would be inadvisable to delay the expedition for long. Please see my despatch No. 82 of the 12th October.

It is desirable that I should return to Berbera without delay.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 23.)

(No. 82. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Aden, October 12, 1899.

THE only information of importance received in Berbera up to the 6th instant was the confirmation of previous reports that the Mollah's following had dispersed, and that he himself was supposed to have left Bohotele for a place further east, so as to be within easy reach of Lasader. Reports regarding him are becoming day by day more vague and meagre.

It is pretty generally believed that a Government expedition is on foot, and the Habr Toljaala and eastern Habr Yunis tribes are now reported to be anxious to make their peace with the Administration. Some of the sections are coming surreptitiously into Berbera and posing as peaceful citizens, others are sending in Petitions to show that they had nothing to do with the Mollah, or had suffered at his hands.

This is all very well. It is a natural sequence to the Mollah's retirement. But we have to guard as far as possible against a repetition of recent events in the nearer portions of our Hinterland, and show the tribes by a display of force in their country, of which they have hitherto had no experience, that we will not allow them to play fast and loose with us, and that the means of punishing them are at hand if they do.

Her Majesty's Government will doubtless consider whether it is worth while to incur the cost of an expedition now that the Mollah's following has dispersed, and he may be said to be out of our reach. This view of the situation has not escaped me. Personally, I have never had much hope of catching the Mollah. It could only be done had he stood his ground and awaited our advance, or were he to remain with a small following in the nearer portions of the Protectorate long enough for a surprise to be effected.

Neither of these eventualities were at any time to be depended upon. He is said to have taken extraordinary precautions to safeguard his person, amongst others retaining a bodyguard of Midgans with poisoned arrows, and these precautions would point to his not exposing himself in a position where he would be liable to be caught.

With the Habr Toljaala and the eastern Habr Yunis the events of the past few months now force us to exercise greater interference than I should have contemplated for some time to come. Our hands have, so to say, been forced by this movement which originated in the Dolbahanta, and by the necessity which has now arisen of breaking the Mollah's influence over the Ishak tribes.

As the situation at present is, it is most important to secure a proper control over the Habr Toljaala and the eastern Habr Yunis. This can partly be done from Berbera by checking their supplies, but we see that measures taken from Berbera are not of themselves effective when the tribes move south and are for the time being independent of our port towns. To effect this control we should for a time hold the water supply at Burao, and by a show of force in that direction and in parts of the Habr Toljaala country make it evident to the people that we will not allow any of the Ishak sections to be with us at one time of the year when they are dependent on us for supplies, and against us at another when they are not so dependent. The control of the wells at Burao and the move of an expedition will at once make this position clear to them.

How long we should hold Burao, and whether or not it will be necessary to keep a permanent post there will, depend upon circumstances. The present is an opportune time to occupy the wells, as the neighbouring tribes are dependent on them till next March.

If we do not move now and content ourselves with taking action against those who hold aloof from us in our coast towns, we shall have no guarantee against the repetition in Ishak territory of recent events as soon as the next spring rains fall, or indeed at any time it may suit the Mollah to again attempt an incursion into Ishak country. The people will think us apathetic, and when the Mollah appears again, as he is certain to do unless it is made plain that he will be opposed by us, the people, uncertain as to whether we will employ force or not, will be apt to think they are left to themselves, with the result that they will be more or less thrown into his hands. Although most of the Ishak sections who have been affected by this movement have suffered thereby, the way has, in a manner, been paved for a fresh incursion by the

Mollah against them, and for the extension of his influence over them ; it is these results we have now to counteract.

There is another reason why any delay in the despatch of an expedition would be inadvisable. For some time past I have been aware of a feeling in the Protectorate that with its severance from Aden the Administration has been left to its own resources, and that troops would not be available for offensive operations. An impression has also gained ground amongst the Somalis that the expedition of Friendlies against the Rer Hared in 1895 was not approved by Government, and that that was to be the last expedition into the interior. These ideas are mischievous, they may have had something to do with the late troubles, and the sooner they are dispelled the better.

For the above reasons I am of opinion that the retirement of the Mollah has not materially altered the situation, except in so far that he no longer threatens Berbera, and that it is necessary to proceed with the expedition on the general line of operations submitted in my despatch No. 81 of the 5th instant.

This leaves the Dolbahanta out of the question for the time being. The settlement of that part of the country is not so important to us at present as that of the nearer Habr Toljaala, and it would be difficult to devise measures by which this could be effected without great cost, certainly till we know more about the attitude of the tribes than we do now. As matters stand the gradual weaning of the tribes from the influence of the Mollah, coupled with the closing of our ports to those who shelter him or afford him assistance, are the measures I would rely on for the present in dealing with the Dolbahanta. Later on other means may, perhaps, be found practicable, but in the first instance we must make sure of the Habr Toljaala. This done, and our hold established over the Ishak country, many of the Darod (Dolbahanta) sections may be expected to see that they have more to gain by peacefully trading with our ports than by following in the wake of this fanatical priest.

It has been ascertained that the rainfall has not been sufficient to raise a fresh crop of grass between Sheikh and Burao.

As regards the possible co-operation of the Abyssinians in any offensive movement against the Mollah, it is to be observed that this line of retreat through the Ogaden, only one of his lines of retreat, would be at a considerable distance from the Harrar frontier, that it would be difficult for an Abyssinian force to effectually guard our frontier at that distance from its base, and that in all probability it would loot every Ogaden tribe it came across.

An Abyssinian force carries no rations, and depends for its supplies on what it can make the country supply. It is true that some of the Ogaden were with the Mollah at Burao, these were probably from tribes situated within the immediate range of his influence; on the other hand, the Ogaden are sending in their caravans much as usual, and I have no grounds for assuming that the tribes of the Ogaden are as a body in any way opposed to us. Under these circumstances, it appears to me very questionable whether the reasons advanced in my despatch No. 57 of the 22nd July last against an early movement of the Abyssinians in the Ogaden would not still outweigh any advantage we might hope to gain from the appearance of their force to the south of our Protectorate with the view of cutting off the Mollah's retreat. Such is my opinion at present ; it may be modified if any further development takes place.

As a matter of fact, I hear from Harrar that a force of 4,000 men has been assembled at Jiggiga. I had previously heard that an expedition was contemplated against the Rer Ali and Rer Haroun Ogaden, who had failed to comply with the demands of the Abyssinians to restore certain loot to our tribes which lately formed the subject of correspondence. But this number is in excess of what would be required for this purpose, and it is probable that the force was concentrated on news reaching Harrar through Hargaisa of a probable advance of the Mollah in the direction of Hargaisa.

I have kept Mr. Gerolimato informed of the Mollah's movements as reported from time to time.

A copy of this despatch and of previous despatches in this connection is being sent to Viscount Cromer.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

No. 169.

Sir F. Plunkett to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 23.)

(No. 118. Africa. Confidential.)

Brussels, October 21, 1899.

My Lord,

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch No. 119, Africa, of the 16th instant, I have the honour to report that Marquis Imperiali spoke to me at the time of his conversation at the Congo State Department respecting the right claimed by the King to occupy the Bahr-el-Ghazal under the lease of 1894, and I am probably the high English Official to whom he alludes as having told him that Her Majesty's Government contested this view.

I told him Her Majesty's Government did not in any way admit such a right.

Marquis Imperiali had this conversation with M. de Cuvelier.

I have not seen any member of the Congo State Department now for some time. In the continued absence of Baron van Eetvelde, who still is nominally Secretary of State, there is little use in speaking with M. de Cuvelier except on direct and definite instructions for he is too much in awe of his royal master to give any interesting information or assume any responsibility without authority from the Palace.

Your Lordship will recollect that no official reply has yet been made to the message from the King sent in Mr. Raikes' despatch No. 129, Africa, of the 24th June last, and I reported in my despatches No. 194 and No. 197 of the 7th and 8th instant that M. de Cuvelier asked me again what view Her Majesty's Government now take of the Convention of 1894. Meanwhile I much fear that the Sovereign of the Congo State will do his utmost to favour the advance of the so-called Commercial expedition which he claims he has a right to authorize in the districts leased to him by Great Britain.

His Majesty will do this all the more that he supposes Great Britain to be too much occupied with the Transvaal to care to interfere at present with his proceedings in the Bahr-el-Ghazal, and a relatively short time may suffice for his agents to seize whatever stocks of every they may discover in those regions.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. R. PLUNKETT.

No. 170.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Consul-General Sadler.

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, October 23, 1899.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 82 of the 12th instant, and your telegram of the 22nd instant.

Her Majesty's Government are of opinion that in the circumstances described you should for the present confine all military measures to what is requisite for ensuring the security of the ports, and that any operations in the interior of the Protectorate should be deferred.

You may, with the concurrence of the Resident at Aden, ask for troops not exceeding 100 cavalry and 300 infantry if you consider any reinforcements from India necessary for the security of the ports.

It is the hope of Her Majesty's Government that with such assistance as Aden can furnish, you will find it possible to manage until next spring. If so, you should inform me in order that the transports which have been taken up to convey troops to Berbera may be quietly released by the Government of India.

No. 170 A.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 24.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Berbera, October 24, 1899.

WITH reference to your Lordship's telegram of yesterday the transports can be released, as assistance from Aden will be sufficient if the necessity should arise to reinforce the ports before the spring.

No. 170 B.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 24.)

(No. 194.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, October 24, 1899.

THE Greek Government have instructed their Representative here to inquire whether Her Majesty's Government would be willing to allow Mr. Harrington to take charge of Greek interests in Abyssinia, where at present they have no Representative.

Has your Lordship any objection?

Mr. Harrington thinks it would be desirable, and states that at Harrar, where there is a considerable Greek settlement, the Abyssinian authorities always consult our Consular Agent on questions concerning Greek subjects.

No. 171.

Foreign Office to India Office.

(Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 24, 1899.

WITH reference to your letter of the 20th instant I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to transmit to you a copy of a telegram which was sent yesterday to Her Majesty's Consul-General for the Somali Coast Protectorate,* informing him that it is considered expedient to postpone any military operations in the interior of the Protectorate, and to take for the present only such measures as are necessary for the security of the ports, for which object it is hoped that such assistance as Aden can supply will be sufficient.

A telegram has been received from Colonel Sadler in reply, of which a copy is also inclosed,† stating that he can procure sufficient aid from Aden to reinforce the ports before the spring, should this be necessary.

In these circumstances the dispatch of troops from India is no longer required, and I am to request that Lord G. Hamilton will inform the Government of India accordingly, and ask that orders may be given for releasing at once, as quietly as possible, the two transports which had been taken up for conveyance of troops to Berbera.

I am, &c.

(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 172.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 25.)

(No. 195.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, October 25, 1899.

THE Sirdar telegraphs as follows from Goz Abu Goma this morning:—

"I have just received news to the effect that the Khalifa left Gedir last Tuesday or Wednesday, and is moving north. It will be impossible for me to overtake him as he has such a start. The whole force has therefore been ordered to return to Omdurman. The greater part of the infantry have reached Fungor and will return at once. The cavalry and camel corps will, however, go on from Fungor to Gedir as a patrol before returning.

"The health of the troops is excellent."

This result of the expedition was always probable; it is nevertheless very regrettable and hard on the troops who have worked extraordinarily well; however, no harm has been done and no expense incurred.

No. 174 A.

Sir F. Plunkett to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 26.)

(No. 123. Africa.)

My Lord,

Brussels, October 25, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to inclose an extract from the "Petit Bleu" of this morning, which states that the so-called commercial expedition of Congolese agents to the Bahr-el-Ghazal has been delayed *en route*, and has got no further as yet than Matadi.

Has your Lordship any information direct from the Congo which would confirm the fact of De Backer's delays in going forward?

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. R. PLUNKETT.

Inclosure in No. 174 A.

Extract from the "Petit Bleu" of October 25, 1899.

AU Bahr-el-Ghazal :

Le Lieutenant de Backer, qui, à la tête de 300 hommes, doit aller exploiter pour une Société particulière les richesses du Bahr-el-Ghazal et qui est parti d'Anvers il y a six mois, se trouve encore en ce moment à Maladi, où de fâcheux embarras de transports le retiennent.

Cette expédition est une affaire absolument privée, l'État, strict observateur du Traité Franco-Congolais, gardant comme limite de son action nord-est le camp de Kéro. En Mai dernier la garnison, sous les ordres du Commandant Adam, du 7^e Régiment de Ligne, était forte de 1,200 hommes, bien armés et disciplinés, encadrés par 15 Européens et soutenus par 20 canons, 6 Krupp, 6 Nordenfelt, et 4 Maxim. Ces troupes sont tenues en haleine par des exercices constants. Elles ont été massées là afin de parer à une attaque des Derviches, que l'on signale toujours dans le Bahr-el-Ghazal, d'où la prochaine expédition du Sirdar Kitchener aura sans doute à les déloger.

Les indigènes qui reviennent de ces parages disent que toute la province n'est plus qu'un désert, sec, aride, inhabité. Les blancs eux-mêmes qui, pour atteindre les forts éloignés qu'ils occupent, ont traversé les fertiles forêts du Haut-Congo, sont frappés de la pauvreté de la contrée. L'esprit des troupes reste néanmoins fort bon, et tous brûlent de se mesurer à nouveau avec les Mahdistes. Ceux-ci reviendront-ils ? Peut-être ! Ils sont si près !

No. 174*.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Viscount Cromer.

(No. 109. Confidential.)
(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, October 28, 1899.

MODIFICATION of boundary-line of Italian sphere as laid down in Protocol of 1891.

I am informed that the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs is now prepared to negotiate on the subject, but unless you send an officer to Rome for this purpose I scarcely see how the details can be settled there.

I would suggest a Protocol or exchange of notes, in which it should be stated that the Italian Government, in view of the altered circumstances since the Protocol of 1891 was signed, agree that Her Majesty's Government shall be at liberty to negotiate with Abyssinia the frontier between the River Juba and the River Mareb, irrespective of the line of division as laid down in the Protocols between the British and Italian spheres of influence.

It might be further agreed that the line of division already laid down from Ras Kasar to Sabderat between the territories under Egyptian and Italian administration shall be further drawn between Sabderat and the Abyssinian frontier by Egyptian and Italian officers appointed to discuss the question at Cairo.

I shall be glad to have your opinion on this matter.

No. 174†.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 27.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Aden, October 27, 1899.

KING MENELEK has sent me a message that he is anxious that operations against the Mullah should be postponed, as he wishes to co-operate. I am instructing Mr. Gerolimato to inform King Menelek through the telephone that the expedition is postponed for the present, and that I will communicate His Majesty's desire to co-operate with us to Her Majesty's Government.

The preparations by the Abyssinians point to an effective occupation of the Ogaden.

No. 173.

Foreign Office to Consul-General Sadler.

(No. 103.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 25, 1899.

THE Marquess of Salisbury has received your despatch No. 78 of the 1st instant on the subject of the claims preferred against the Administration of the French Settlement at Jibuti in connection with the late raid in the British Protectorate.

I am directed by his Lordship to inform you that, in the circumstances stated in your despatch, he approves your action in authorizing an advance from the Protectorate revenues of two sums of 5,432 rupees, and 405 rupees, as compensation to the families who suffered loss either of relations or property during the raid.

I am, &c.

(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 174.

Lord Currie to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 26.)

(No. 203.)

My Lord,

Rome, October 23, 1899.

WITH reference to my despatch No. 184 of the 14th ultimo, respecting the proposed frontier between Abyssinia and the Soudan, I have the honour to report that M. Visconti Venosta has informed me that he is now prepared to enter into negotiations as to any modification which it may be thought desirable to introduce into the boundary-line of the Italian sphere as laid down in the Protocol of 1891.

I shall be glad if your Lordship will furnish me with instructions on the subject.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CURRIE.

No. 175.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 29.)

(No. 196.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, October 29, 1899.

ERYTHRÆAN frontier.

Sir R. Rodd is intimately acquainted with this subject, and, in my opinion, the best course to pursue would be to send him to Rome to complete the negotiations with the Italian Government.

No. 176.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 30.)

(No. 190. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Cairo, October 21, 1899.

WITH reference to my telegram No. 190 of the 20th instant, and to your Lordship's reply No. 105 of the same date, I have the honour to transmit herewith copy of a despatch which I have this day addressed to Captain Harrington, embodying instructions as to the attitude to be observed by him in dealing with the question of the Abyssinian frontier.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CROMER.

Inclosure in No. 176.

Viscount Cromer to Captain Harrington.

(Confidential.)

Sir,

Cairo, October 21, 1899.

I AM directed by Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to convey to you the following instructions with respect to the frontier negotiations in progress with the Emperor Menelek:—

Generally speaking, it will be advisable at the present moment not to press matters, but to watch the progress of events which may afford you more favourable opportunities for discussion. If pressed, however, for information as to the attitude of Her Majesty's Government towards the proposals which have been submitted, you may state that the frontier line agreed upon to the east of the Anglo-Egyptian Soudan is accepted provisionally, pending the arrangement of details.

But before any definite and final agreement can be come to, it is necessary for us to arrange with the Italian Government our frontier south and east of Kassala, in order to make clear the starting-point for delimitation with Ethiopia. Negotiations with this object are now in progress in Rome. We are also sending out survey parties to report on the tribal divisions both in the neighbourhood of Fazogli and on the Sobat River, in accordance with the principle laid down that delimitation should, as far as possible, follow the boundaries of occupation of the several tribes.

Should the Emperor Menelek press for an answer on the question of Metemmeh, the solution suggested in Sir R. Rodd's despatch No. 149 of the 10th August last might safely be put forward.

With regard to the southern frontier, the line proposed is not considered satisfactory, but Her Majesty's Government are not yet prepared to make definite counter-propositions. You should, therefore, without committing yourself to any special line, inform the Emperor that the matter will form the subject of further communication. At the same time, if you are able to induce him to make any more favourable proposals than those which have been submitted, you should listen to them and submit them for consideration.

I am, &c.

(Signed) CROMER.

No. 177.

Lord Currie to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 30.)

(No. 205.)

My Lord,

Rome, October 26, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a Report which I have received from Colonel Needham, Military Attaché to Her Majesty's Embassy, respecting the movements of King Menelek.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CURRIE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 177.

Colonel Needham to Lord Currie.

(No. 46.)

My Lord,

Rome, October 24, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to inclose, for the information of your Excellency, the translation of an extract from an Italian military paper, which indicates the opinion of the press on the motive of the Emperor Menelek's concentration of troops.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CHARLES NEEDHAM, Colonel,
Military Attaché.

Inclosure 2 in No. 177.

*Newspaper Extract.*MENELEK ON THE MARCH.

THE "Stampa" publishes a letter from Aden, which asserts that Menelek will shortly advance to suppress a rebellion in Tigre.

The writer fears that Menelek will take advantage of this opportunity for insisting on a settlement of the question of boundaries between Italy and Abyssinia.

News of Menelek's impending advance was given in the "Italia Militare e Marina" some twelve days ago. We did not think then, nor do we now, that he has any intention of moving on Tigre, nor that there is any question of the boundaries of Erythræa.

Menelek has heard that the English have a big war on hand in South Africa. He remembers that at the time of the Fashoda episode the gathering of his troops at Borumieda and his threats at Metemmah (the Abyssinian gate of the Soudan) caused messengers to be sent him from England, and everyone knows that messengers from England to barbarian Monarchs do not arrive with their hands empty. Now, Menelek is anxious to repeat this farce; to advance in order that his retirement may be paid for, nothing more.

It must not be forgotten that the French and Russian instigators of Menelek have no interest just now in inciting him against Italy, but, on the other hand, they have every interest in inciting him against England in the Soudan.

We believe the boundaries of Erythræa are the last thing Menelek is thinking of.

"Italia Militare e Marina," Rome,
October 22, 1899.

No. 178.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received October 30.)

Sir,

India Office, October 28, 1899.

WITH reference to your letter of the 24th October, I am directed to forward herewith, for the information of the Marquess of Salisbury, copy of a telegram dated the 25th October, 1899, which has been addressed to the Viceroy of India.

I have, &c.

(Signed) E. STEDMAN, Major-General,
Military Secretary.

Inclosure in No. 178.

Lord G. Hamilton to Government of India.

(Telegraphic.)

India Office, October 25, 1899.

YOUR telegram of the 16th October.

Somaliland. Troops from India not now required. Release transports as quickly as possible.

No. 179.

Lord Currie to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 30.)

(No. 103.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Rome, October 30, 1899.

YOUR Lordship's telegram to Lord Cromer No. 109.

With reference to my despatch No. 184 of the 14th ultimo, respecting the Abyssinia-Soudan frontier, I beg leave to call attention to the reserve made by

M. Visconti-Venosta in regard to territory north-west of a line drawn from Todluk to Touat. His Excellency has lately repeated his declaration that north of Touat actual frontier of Erythræa is the Italian boundary of 1891, but that he would be prepared to negotiate on this point. He would be willing that negotiations should take place on the spot when general principle has been settled.

I am of opinion that M. Visconti-Venosta's views would be met if, in the first Protocol, the territory between Rivers Juba and Stetit were treated, and if the second Protocol declared that Egyptian and Italian officers should delimit the boundary north of the Stetit River.

No. 180.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Lord Currie.

(No. 136.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, October 30, 1899.

IT has been suggested by Her Majesty's Agent and Consul-General at Cairo that Sir R. Rodd should be instructed to proceed to Rome to help you in discussing with the Italian Government the modifications in the provisions of the Protocol, necessitated by the present frontier negotiations with Abyssinia.

I have given my consent, and have requested him to arrange with you with regard to the date of Sir R. Rodd's visit.

No. 181.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Sir E. Monson.

(No. 349.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, October 30, 1899.

I TRANSMIT to your Excellency herewith copy of a despatch which has been received from Her Majesty's Consul-General for the Somali Coast,* on the subject of the claims preferred against the Administration of the French Settlement at Jibuti in connection with the late raid in the British Protectorate.

Your Excellency should take an opportunity of mentioning this matter to the French Minister for Foreign Affairs with a view to obtaining a settlement of the claims.

Copies of the previous despatches on this subject received from Colonel Hayes Sadler are inclosed for convenience of reference.†

I am, &c.

(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 182.

Memorandum by Mr. Jenner.

MUHAMAD AGID'S account clearly shows that the Abyssinians are not in possession of the Sakuyu country at any rate, whatever other parts they may have occupied. Their claim to have effectively occupied the Gara (or Gere) country may also be discounted, as I was practically in it when I got opposite Lugh last spring and heard nothing of them. The Karayou Province of Boran which lies between Tertala Boran and Sakuyu Boran they had occupied in their irregular fashion, and probably Tertala also. It is, however, of course a total misuse of the words "effective occupation," as Sir Arthur Hardinge points out, to apply it to the establishment in the countries in question of isolated posts which live by plundering and enslaving the inhabitants, as it is notorious that the Abyssinians do.

Slave raiding appears to be habitually practised by the Abyssinians, and to rely on Menelek's promise to restrain them from so doing would be useless.

(I would like to point out that in the map you sent me Lugh is put on the wrong side of the river and that the word Borana appears south of Menelek's proposed line, whereas the Boran country consists of the various provinces included in his line.)

* No. 152.

† See Confidential Paper No. 7107, Nos. 67, 77, 78, 81, 89, and 135.

No. 181*.

Sir F. Plunkett to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received October 31.)

(No. 130. Africa.)

My Lord,

Brussels, October 30, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to forward herewith copy of an article which I have found in a number, now three weeks old, of the "Congo Belge," giving a summary of the arguments on which the Congolese Government found their claim to go into the Bahr-el-Ghazal, and showing at the same time the reasons why the "Société Générale Africaine," while quite justified in sending the expedition to that region, should do so quietly and with discretion.

The article points out how easy it will be to disavow the action of the Company should it be objected to with sufficient force by other Governments.

I have, &c.

(Signed) F. R. PLUNKETT.

Inclosure in No. 181*.

Extract from the "Congo Belge" of October 15, 1899.

QUELQUES journaux Anglais, tous organes de l'Opposition, il est vrai, feignent de montrer de l'émotion au sujet des tentatives Belges vers le Bahr-el-Ghazal. L'un des plus violents est le "Daily Chronicle," qui s'oublie jusqu'à qualifier le Souverain de l'État Indépendant d'épithètes aussi peu gracieuses que: "l'un des intriguants les plus astucieux et les plus persévérants qu'il soit en Europe." Pourquoi ces gros mots inconvenants et pour le moins inutiles? Nos lecteurs vont juger, à l'instant, de leur absence d'opportunité.

Les Belges ont tous les titres à l'occupation du Bahr-el-Ghazal. Cela n'est pas douteux. Les Anglais, qui sont liés envers eux par un Traité, en bonne et due forme, qui n'a jamais été résilié, ont moins que personne le droit de les leur contester. Dès 1891, l'action des Belges s'exerça à la fois sur le Haut-Nil et dans le Bahr-el-Ghazal. En 1891 se place, en effet, la fameuse expédition de l'Uellé, sous le commandement de Vankerhoven.

Vankerhoven mourut, accidentellement, tué d'un coup de feu par son boy, le 10 Août, 1892: ce fut le Lieutenant Milz qui le remplaça, et le Lieutenant Milz acheva dignement l'œuvre si bien commencée. Au mois de Septembre 1892, il touchait au Nil et trouvait Ouadelai occupé par quelques anciens soldats d'Émin, en proie à la plus grande misère. Ils furent trop heureux de rentrer au service de l'État Indépendant, ce qui permit à Milz de faire occuper Doufile.

Ainsi, dès le commencement de 1893, les Belges dominaient au pays des Niams-Niams, et la ligne de postes qui jalonnaient la Vallée de l'Ouellé reliait le Nil au Congo Central. Pendant que le Capitaine Delanghe, remplaçant le Lieutenant Milz rentré en Europe, procédait à l'occupation de la Vallée du Haut-Nil, les officiers de l'État Indépendant complétaient vers le nord les résultats obtenus à l'est par l'expédition Vankerhoven-Milz. La rapidité de leurs succès fut due à ce que les Sultanats du nord avaient eu fort à souffrir de l'invasion Mahdiste; aussi accueillirent-ils les Belges comme des libérateurs.

Le Sultan Semio avait eu une large part dans le succès de l'expédition Vankerhoven; son fils Bédowé prêta le même appui au Capitaine Fievez, qui procéda à l'occupation du Bahr-el-Ghazal et fonda sur le Borou, affluent du Nil, près de Lissi, la Moudirieh "Prince Albert."

Parallèlement à l'expédition Fievez, le Lieutenant De la Kéthulle, prenant le Sultanat de Rafai pour point d'appui, marchait vers l'Adda, tandis qu'un peu plus vers l'est le Lieutenant Hanolet, parti de Bangasso, s'avancait vers le Bassin du Chari.

Le Lieutenant De la Kéthulle de Ryhove, reçu par le Sultan Rafai avec les plus grandes démonstrations d'amitié, commença par faire acte d'occupation effective de son territoire, et prit contact avec le Lieutenant Foulon, qui venait d'arriver à Semio. Puis, de Février à Juin 1894, il accomplit avec Nilis une belle exploration qui le

conduisit au nord jusque dans la Vallée de l'Adda à Katuaka. Il trouva une population en majeure partie Arabe, qui lui fit un excellent accueil, et dont le Chef, Achmet Curcia, arbora le drapeau de l'Etat Indépendant.

En 1894, le Lieutenant Hanolet, accompagné des Lieutenants Van Calster et Stroobants, partit de Bangasso et arriva à Makbanda en traversant le pays des Noundous et des Burus. Les voyageurs trouvèrent une population ruinée par les invasions des Mahdistes, qui se réfugiait dans des Monolithes élevés sur les hauteurs, véritables blockhaus d'un accès difficile. Après Makbanda, ils pénétrèrent dans le Bassin du Chari, qui n'est séparé de celui du Nil que par une élévation de terrain peu sensible. Les habitants de ces nouvelles contrées, les Kreischs, étaient en rapports constants avec les gens du Ouadelai et disposaient d'un armement perfectionné; mais ils ne firent aucune opposition à la marche du Lieutenant Hanolet, qui put fonder le poste de M'Bellé et atteindre le grand marché de Kouka.

De 1891 à 1897, douze expéditions Belges furent envoyées dans le Bassin du Haut-Nil.

Pour ce qui concerne le Bahr-el-Ghazal, il était, en 1894, marqué de plusieurs postes Belges. Pendant les deux années précédentes, De la Kéthulle et Nilis avaient pénétré fort en avant dans cette région. En 1894, ils arrivaient à Katuaka, par 9° de latitude, le point le plus septentrional atteint dans le Bahr-el-Ghazal, à l'endroit où l'Adda et le Bahr-el-Fertit forment le Bahr-el-Areb. En 1893, Donckier de Donceel s'était établi à Liffi, entre Katuaka et Dem-Siber, et Hanolet avait pénétré la même année dans le Bassin du Chari, qui se jette dans le Lac Tchad.

Ici se place la Convention du 12 Mai, 1894, qui donnait au Roi Léopold II la rive gauche du Nil, de Redjaf à Fachoda, et le Bahr-el-Ghazal tout entier à l'Etat Indépendant du Congo, contre une bande de territoire, à l'Angleterre, reliant l'Ouganda au Tanganyika et lui permettant de réaliser ce rêve d'Impérialisme Africain, le "Cape-to-Cairo route."

La France nous arracha ce que les Anglais nous avaient concédé. De tout ce que la Convention de Mai accordait aux Belges, elle ne laissa que l'enclave de Lado et la rive gauche du M'Bomu. Les postes Belges furent occupés par les Français, et les années suivantes virent les Liotard, les Baratier, et les Marchand fonder leur gloire sur l'œuvre demeurée ignorée de nos officiers.

Toutefois, le Traité Anglo-Congolais de Mai 1894 existe toujours vis-à-vis des Anglais. Cela résulte à la fois du fait que l'Angleterre n'a eu aucune part aux négociations Franco-Congolaises qui en ont modifié les conséquences immédiates et des déclarations de Lord Salisbury.

Le Gouvernement Anglais, en renonçant provisoirement, sur la demande du Roi Léopold, à se prévaloir de la clause qui lui cédait une bande de territoire reliant l'Ouganda au Tanganyika, a consenti simplement à en suspendre les effets, mais non l'existence. Depuis que les négociations Franco-Anglaises ont restitué au Gouvernement Britannique le Bahr-el-Ghazal, le Traité est *ipso facto* mis en vigueur.

L'Angleterre a un intérêt capital à posséder une bande de territoire reliant le nord de l'Afrique Britannique au sud. La Convention de Mai 1894 lui donne, sous ce rapport, une satisfaction complète.

Jamais les Anglais n'ont résilié le Traité de 1894. Lord Salisbury a déclaré expressément sa survivance.

Aujourd'hui des journaux comme le "Daily Chronicle" et le "Guardian Mail," augmentent avec une belle impudence. "En 1894," disent-ils, "nous pouvions craindre le voisinage des Français près du Nil; l'objet avoué sinon exprimé de la Convention était de placer l'Etat du Congo dans le Bahr-el-Ghazal comme une barrière contre les progrès menaçants de la France. Aujourd'hui, après Fachoda, plus rien n'est à craindre de celle-ci; par conséquent, la Convention tombe."

Quel est donc le casuiste qui inspire ces judicieux journaux, et depuis quand une Convention conclue et scellée définitivement disparaît-elle par l'effet du changement d'intérêts et de convenances d'une seule des parties contractantes?

Ne serait-ce pas là de la politique "d'intriguants astucieux?" Au surplus, ces braves folliculaires perdent leur temps et nous sommes pleinement de leur avis quand ils écrivent "qu'il est difficile de croire que le Roi Léopold commette une telle 'impertinence' [sic] d'envahir le Bahr-el-Ghazal, en ayant comme précédent l'histoire de l'expédition Marchand, s'il n'a pas conclu quelque arrangement avec le Gouvernement Britannique."

La Société Générale Africaine vient d'expédier vers le Bahr-el-Ghazal une caravane d'agents qui sont partis au début du mois d'Août de Matadi avec 819 charges formant une pacotille d'une valeur de plus de 100,000 fr. Cette Mission commerciale

était composée de six blancs. La gravure de la première page du présent numéro du "Congo Belge" représente quelques-uns des membres de la Mission de passage à Matadi. Outre les charges de victuailles, boissons, conserves, tentes, et litteries, elle transportait encore des armes et des effets d'habillement pour 500 hommes de troupes, de nombreux drapeaux, clairons, et des marchandises de troc et d'échange pour les négociations et le commerce avec les nègres.

L'expédition partant de Matadi passe par eau par Léopoldville, Kinchassa, Berghe-Sainte-Marie, Tchumbiri, Bolobo, Coquilhatville, Lulonga, Bolombo, Ndondo, Bolonga, Ukatoraka, Umangi, Upoto, Ndola jusqu'à Bumba. De Bumba elle se dirigera par le Rubi vers Faradje au delà de Vankerkhovenville.

La "Métropole" d'Anvers a toujours soutenu que le Commandant Chaltin avait pour mission d'occuper le Bahr-el-Ghazal. Le "Petit Bleu" a publié des renseignements qui, d'autre part, montrent l'action concertée des Belges et des Anglais sur le Nil. Il est vrai que la presse vient d'accueillir un communiqué démentant le fait d'une expédition militaire vers le Bahr-el-Ghazal. Nous aussi nous espérons que l'expédition en cours de route sera toute pacifique et n'aura rien de militaire.

L'intervention de la Société Générale Africaine est, d'ailleurs, légitime, même au cas improbable de protestation venant de divers États voisins, au sujet de la possession du Bahr-el-Ghazal. Une Société qui a des capitaux à faire fructifier a le droit d'essayer de se créer un trafic rémunérateur. Ses excès de zèle même sont facilement excusables et il est aisé de les désavouer en cas où ils attireraient des observations soutenues par des arguments d'une solidité et force de persuasion reconnues suffisantes. Nous avons la conviction qu'il n'en sera rien.

Après l'amère déconvenue de Fachoda, pour les Français, il ne pourrait paraître que convenable et décent que l'occupation du pays abandonné par eux et dont ils nous avaient brutalement chassés, soit opérée avec discrétion et sans grand tapage. Cette considération explique bien des choses.

I think the argument that we ought to use to Menelek is this: That it is most important to both of us that the boundary-line should be of such a kind as to obviate friction and disputes in the future between us: That the traders from the south and east (the coast, in fact) have for the last fifty years at least been a link of connection between Boran and the coast, and that we should suffer material damage by giving up that country to him; Boran caravans come down to Kismayu, but when did a Boran caravan go into Abyssinia? If he takes Boran with a promise to us of freedom of trade and no slavery, disputes will constantly be arising and ill-feeling will ensue between us, as the country is so far from both our centres of government that it is impossible for either of us thoroughly to control our people there: That we on our side will abandon our claims to the coffee-growing hill country north of Boran and discourage the coast traders from going there, and that he should leave Tertala and the rest of Boran to us: That the boundary should follow the northern tribal limits of Boran from Stephanie. Reshiat will thus be left to him, and it will probably gratify his pride to know that his Empire reaches Lake Rudolph. The Upper Juba will also probably be his nearly down to the junction with the Dawa. A Joint Commission could easily settle the boundaries of the Boranas to the north. Sir Arthur Hardinge's proposed line along the Dawa and the 5th parallel would save us Sakuyu and the best part of the Gara, and I think a part of Karayu, including Afalata's big town, but it appears to go right through the Tertala country and would generally not be so convenient as a tribal limit boundary. It is, so it seems to me, important for us to secure the whole of Boran if possible, or part of it in any case, for the following reasons: the trade between Boran and the coast is considerable, as I saw myself last spring.

The Italians cover, so they say themselves, all their expenses, except the rent to the Sultan, with their revenue, the bulk of which comes from the duties on the Boran ivory and the cloth which purchases it.

The country, especially Tertala and Karayu, appears to be healthy highlands with an excellent climate, and though it produces no crops now, because the people are pastoral, the live stock, the camels, donkeys, and cattle, are of excellent quality, far surpassing those of the Somali country.

The people are a gallant and friendly race who have been in communication with us ever since the Company's time, and the abandonment of their country to Abyssinia besides ruining the coast trade will adversely affect our prestige amongst the Somalis.

A. C. W. JENNER.

Swallett House, Christian Malford, Wilts,
November 1, 1899.

No. 183.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 3.)

(No. 197.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, November 3, 1899.

HARRINGTON telegraphs that a letter has arrived for him at Aden from Menelek, stating that he hopes the settlement of the frontier will not be delayed by the survey operations, to which, however, he has no objections.

No. 184.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 4.)

(No. 198.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, November 4, 1899.

SIR RENNELL RODD has received a letter from M. Ilg, stating that King Menelek will not allow him to proceed on his proposed visit to Europe until Captain Harrington arrives at Addis Abbaba. I gather that the King is very anxious for an early settlement of the frontier question.

No. 185.

Foreign Office to Consul-General Sadler.

(No. 107.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 4, 1899.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to transmit to you the papers marked in the margin,* relative to an International Conference, to be held at London in the first week in January next, on the subject of the protection of wild animals, birds, and fishes in Africa.

His Lordship considers that it would be well that some gentleman acquainted with the subject, as affecting the Somaliland Protectorate, should be available to furnish information to the Conference, and I am to inquire whom you would suggest for the purpose. It is desirable, if possible, that it should be some official of the Protectorate who would be on leave in England at the time.

His Lordship would also be glad of any views which you may yourself wish to express on the subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 186.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Viscount Cromer.

(No. 112.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, November 7, 1899.

ABYSSINIAN frontier negotiations.

On the 10th instant Memoranda by Sir A. Hardinge and Vice-Consul Jenner will be forwarded to your Lordship and to Captain Harrington. They will enable Captain Harrington, should he consider it necessary, to discuss the proposals made by the Emperor Menelek for the southern frontier of Abyssinia where it abuts on the British sphere.

I hardly think that the present moment is favourable for the negotiations, and would prefer, before giving any instructions, to hear more of the Emperor's disposition.

I have to request that you will inform Captain Harrington of the above.

No. 187.

Sir E. Monson to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 10.)

(No. 469.)

My Lord,

Paris, November 9, 1899.

IN compliance with your Lordship's despatch No. 349 of the 30th ultimo I mentioned yesterday to M. Delcassé the case of the raid into the Somali Protectorate from Jibuti, and in order that there should be no delay in dealing with this matter I gave his Excellency a short Memorandum recapitulating the chief points of the incident as reported by Consul-General Sadler.

M. Delcassé said that he had never heard of it before, and at once made a note upon my Memorandum for instant reference to the Minister of the Colonies.

I have, &c.

(Signed) EDMUND MONSON.

* Nos. 190, 191, and 192.

No. 186*.

Foreign Office to Mr. A. Gray.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 7, 1899.

WITH reference to your letter of the 12th September last, I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to transmit to you proofs of three sets of Queen's Regulations,* intended for the Somaliland Protectorate.

You have already had under your consideration the Regulations respecting mines and minerals and those respecting the use of fire-arms, but you have not yet had before you those for the importation and sale of alcoholic liquors.

As these are the first Queen's Regulations under "The Somaliland Order in Council, 1899," of which a copy is annexed for convenience of reference,† Lord Salisbury considers it of special importance that the form should be in all respects regular and according to precedent, so that, should further Queen's Regulations be necessary, the Consul-General may readily be able to draft them in proper form.

You will observe that the present headings of the Regulations are not uniform.

I am, therefore, to request that you will take these Regulations into consideration, with a view to securing their regularity and uniformity, and return them with any observations or alterations which you may wish to suggest.

I am, &c.

(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 188.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Mr. Harrington.

(No. 36. Confidential.)

Foreign Office, November 10, 1899.

Sir,

I TRANSMIT to you herewith copy of a telegram which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Agent and Consul-General at Cairo,* and of which the substance will have already been communicated to you by his Lordship, with regard to the southern frontier of Abyssinia.

Copies of the Memoranda, by Sir A. Hardinge and Mr. Jenner, referred to in that telegram, are inclosed herewith, as well as copy of a despatch from the Sub-Commissioner at Mombasa on the same subject.†

The Memoranda are accompanied by a map‡ on which are approximately traced the lines of frontier to the east of Lake Rudolf, as suggested by Sir A. Hardinge and Mr. Jenner respectively.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 189.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Viscount Cromer.

(No. 234. Confidential.)

Foreign Office, November 10, 1899.

My Lord,

WITH reference to my telegram No. 112 of the 7th instant I transmit to your Lordship herewith copies of Memoranda by Sir Arthur Hardinge and Mr. Jenner, as well as a despatch from the Sub-Commissioner at Mombasa, with regard to the proposals of the Emperor Menelek respecting the southern frontier of Abyssinia.† The Memoranda are accompanied by a map on which are approximately traced in black ink the lines of frontier east of Lake Rudolf as suggested by Sir A. Hardinge and Mr. Jenner respectively.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 190.

Circular addressed to Her Majesty's Representatives at Paris, Rome, Constantinople, Cairo, Lisbon, Madrid, Brussels (for Congo Free State).

My Lord,

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 11, 1899.

HER Majesty's Government have for some time past been in communication with the Government of Germany as to the best methods to be adopted for the preservation of the wild animals, birds, and fishes in the African Continent.

The two Governments have agreed that it would be desirable to establish the principles to be followed, on the subjoined bases:—

1. The prohibition of the killing of wild animals under one year old and females with their young, except noxious animals and beasts of prey.
2. The creation of reserves within which it shall be unlawful to hunt, capture, or kill any wild animal or bird not excepted from protection under 1.
3. The prohibition of wholesale trade in the hides, skins, horns, and tusks of wild animals, and in the skins and plumage of birds.
4. The prohibition of the use of dynamite or other explosives and of poison in streams, lakes, or ponds, for the purpose of taking fish.
5. A close season for certain kinds of animals and birds, and the complete protection of some kinds.
6. The prohibition of export of elephants' tusks of less than 10 lbs. weight, and the imposition of a higher rate of duty on tusks between that weight and 30 lbs. than on those above 30 lbs.

* No. 185.

† Nos. 46*, 164, and 182.

‡ Not printed.

7. The introduction of a system of licences to individuals, not natives, desiring to kill, hunt, or capture wild animals, birds or fishes, and of tribal or other licences to natives.

8. The rigorous enforcement within the zone to which the Act will apply of a strict supervision over the sale of fire-arms and ammunition.

9. The zone to which the Act shall apply to be that defined in Article VIII of the General Act of the Brussels Conference of 1889-90, except that its southern limit shall be the northern boundary of the German possessions in South-Western Africa from its western extremity to its junction with the River Zambezi, and thence the right bank of that river to the Indian Ocean. The Act to apply also to Madagascar and the Aldabra Islands.

Her Majesty's Government, in accord with that of Germany, propose that Representatives of the different Powers, which by virtue of their African possessions are interested in the question, should meet in Conference at London in the first week in January next to endeavour to arrive at an agreement on the bases above enumerated.

I have to request you to ascertain and report to me whether the Government is disposed to take part in the proposed Conference.

A similar invitation has been addressed to the Governments of

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 191.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Viscount Gough.

(No. 160. Africa.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, November 11, 1899.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch No. 92, Africa, of the 26th ultimo, I transmit herewith, for communication to the German Government, a copy of a Circular despatch* which I have addressed to Her Majesty's Representatives at the Courts of the several Powers having possessions in the portion of Africa situated between the 20th parallel of north latitude and the Zambezi and Cunene Rivers, inviting them to take part in a Conference at London in January next for the consideration of measures for the protection of wild animals, birds, and fishes in Africa.

I will keep your Lordship informed of the replies which may be received to the invitation. A list of the Powers to whom it has been addressed is inclosed, and should an agreement be arrived at it would be proposed to obtain the adhesion of Abyssinia, Zanzibar, and Liberia.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 192.

Foreign Office to Colonial Office.

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 11, 1899.

WITH reference to your letter of the 13th March last, marked Confidential, I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to state to you, for the information of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, that the German Government have intimated that the first week in January next will suit them for the meeting of the International Conference on the protection of game in Africa, and the invitations, of which copies are inclosed,† have accordingly been issued.

The limitation of the zone affected by the proceedings of the proposed Conference to the north of the Zambezi will remove the difficulties indicated in your above-mentioned letter of the possible participation of Her Majesty's Colonies south of that river, but Mr. Chamberlain will no doubt consider whether any representatives of the South African Company, as interested north of the Zambezi, or of the West African Colonies should attend either as Delegates or merely to give information if required.

* No. 190.

No. 193*.

*Foreign Office to Sir H. Johnston.**

(No. 226.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 11, 1899.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to request that you will issue a Regulation calling upon all holders of game licences in the Protectorate to furnish, under penalties in case of non-compliance, returns of the numbers, sex, and species of game killed by them under their licences.

Where you have any reason to suppose that a licence has been misused, you will report to this Department before renewing it.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

FRANCIS BERTIE.

No. 193†.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 12.)

(No. 200.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, November 12, 1899.

ACCORDING to the most recent information received from the Soudan, it appears that the Khalifa is marching towards Omdurman. Kitchener is here at present, but leaves on Friday next for the South. Under present circumstances it will be better to defer the publication of the Notice, which it had been decided to issue, permitting all travellers to enter the Soudan from the 1st December.

A detachment of British troops was quartered at Khartoum last winter, and the Sirdar has spoken to me recently about doing so again. I think he is right in this, and that it would be advisable, for several reasons, although not absolutely necessary, to send the men if they can be spared. They would, of course, not go if there is any likelihood of a part of the garrison here being dispatched to the Transvaal, but I hope this will not be necessary. The sanitary condition of the troops at Khartoum is most satisfactory, and there are huts free.

I have shown the draft of this telegram to General Talbot, and suggest that the decision of the War Office should be telegraphed to him.

In the former case the Delegates would occupy a position similar to that held by the Colonial Office Representative at the recent Liquor Conference at Brussels.

I am, &c.

(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

No. 193.

Foreign Office to Consul-General Sadler.

(No. 109.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 11, 1899.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 84 of the 24th ultimo relative to the ammunition which appears to have been passed through Zeyla by Ato Josef under false pretences, and to inform you that his Lordship approves your action in desiring M. Gerolimato to request the Governor of Harrar to hold an inquiry into the matter, and attach all such arms and ammunition not destined for the King.

Before coming to a decision on the proposals which you make for further action in the matter, Lord Salisbury will await the report which Her Majesty's Agent in Abyssinia will no doubt make on the steps taken by him in the matter.

I am, &c.

(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 194.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 13.)

(No. 84.)

My Lord,

Aden, October 24, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to submit copy of a communication I addressed to our Consular Agent at Harrar on the 9th instant in connection with a quantity of ammunition which it now appears has been passed through Zeyla by Ato Josef, the Agent of King Menelek, in the name of the King, but really destined for himself and other Abyssinian merchants.

On the 26th September last the Acting Consul at Zeyla wrote to me as follows :—

"There is now little doubt that Ato Josef has passed a considerable amount of ammunition through Zeyla under a false declaration, *i.e.*, that a certain amount of the ammunition was never destined for His Majesty the Emperor Menelek, but belonged to private merchants in Jibuti and Harrar, to Ato Josef himself, and other Abyssinians. My information is based on inquiries made by Her Britannic Majesty's Consular Agent, Harrar, who states that Ato Josef passed through Zeyla the following quantities for the following different people :—

1.	For Serkis Terezian ..	..	..	..	..	200	cases	ammunition.
2.	„ Degiay Berato ..	..	..	..	..	100	„	„
3.	„ Ato Dingo ..	..	..	..	..	100	„	„
4.	„ Gabretadik ..	..	..	..	..	40	„	„
5.	„ Apli Wold ..	..	..	..	..	4	„	„
6.	„ Waldi Ott ..	..	..	..	..	1	„	„
7.	„ Himself (Ato Josef) ..	..	..	..	..	200	„	„
8.	„ Abito (Ato Josef's servant) ..	..	..	..	..	4	„	„
	Total ..	..	..	..	..	649	„	„

Mr. Gerolimato states he received this information from Abito (No. 8 above, who was in Zeyla with Ato Josef), and heard Abito admit before Ato Josef and the chief of the Harrar Customs, Ato Bapti, that he (Abito) had sold his own four cases on the road, which must have been at Gildessa.

In a further communication Mr. Gerolimato says that he has also been informed that Ato Josef received a bribe from Serkis Terezian for passing his 200 cases through Zeyla under the name of the Emperor Menelek, and that some 250 cases of arms and ammunition belonging to other merchants were also passed through Zeyla by Ato Josef.

Ato Josef came here from Addis Abbaba armed with a letter from Captain

[1554]

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Harrington, Her Britannic Majesty's Agent in Abyssinia, and was sent to Captain Harrington by the Emperor himself with a letter.

Some time after Ato Josef had left Zeyla I heard from Somalis that some ammunition he had passed through here was being sold at Gildessa. Inquiries were set on foot, with the above result.

On the 3rd instant the Acting Consul at Zeyla wrote again as follows:—

"I have just received a further letter from Mr. Gerolimato, from which the following is an extract:—

"Ato Marcia, the Governor of Gildessa, arrived here (Harrar) three days ago, and told me that Somalis had brought into Gildessa some arms and ammunition, and that these belonged to the Armenian Serkis Terezian; and as Ato Josef had passed them through Zeyla in the name of King Menelek, he (Ato Marcia) had seized them.'"

Mr. Gerolimato goes on to say that Serkis Terezian is claiming his arms and ammunition, but that Ato Marcia refuses to deliver them up to him.

There can be little doubt but that the concession which was allowed to King Menelek of importing arms and ammunition for State purposes through our Protectorate has been grossly abused by his Agent, Ato Josef, with the probable result that arms and ammunition have found their way to our tribes, and the Ogaden tribes to the south of the Protectorate.

I have already desired Mr. Gerolimato to request the Governor of Harrar to hold an inquiry into the matter, and attach all arms and ammunition which were passed through Zeyla, and which were not destined for the King. The King should now be moved to take proceedings against Ato Josef and the merchants implicated in these fraudulent transactions. The Abyssinians may be trusted to confiscate all the arms and ammunition fraudulently passed through Zeyla upon which they can lay their hands, and it seems to me matter for consideration whether the Protectorate should not claim import duty on all consignments so found to have been passed, should such a claim in no way prejudice the negotiations at present pending with Abyssinia.

I am sending a copy of this despatch to Her Britannic Majesty's Agent in Abyssinia for such action as he may deem expedient.

King Menelek will be able to ascertain how many arms and how much ammunition have reached his troops, and as the quantity passed through Zeyla is accurately known, there should be no difficulty in discovering the extent to which these frauds have been perpetrated.

For the future I propose not to allow any arms or ammunition to pass through the Protectorate, or any goods said to be destined for the King to pass duty-free through Zeyla, without an intimation received in the case of each consignment from Her Britannic Majesty's Agent with King Menelek that it is actually required for the use of the King.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

Inclosure in No. 194.

Consul-General Sadler to Mr. Gerolimato.

Sir,

Aden, October 9, 1899.

THE Acting Consul, Zeyla, informs me that there is reason to believe that Ato Josef, the Agent of King Menelek, has been passing through Zeyla, free of duty, in the name of the King, arms and ammunition which were not destined for His Majesty, and I understand a seizure of such arms and ammunition has already been made at Gildessa by the Governor of that place.

I shall be obliged if you will kindly represent the matter to the Acting Governor of Harrar, and request him to hold an inquiry, at which you would do well to be present, and attach all arms and ammunition passed through Zeyla by Ato Josef which may be found to be elsewhere than on their way to the King.

In this connection it will be useful to remember that all the arms and ammunition passed through Zeyla by Ato Josef were so passed in the name of the King, as destined for His Majesty.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

No. 195.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 13.)

(No. 85. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Aden, October 29, 1899.

IN continuation of my telegram of the 27th instant, I have the honour to submit copy of a Confidential despatch, dated the 17th instant, from our Consular Agent in Harrar, conveying a request from King Menelek that our operations in the interior may be postponed, on the ground that the King wishes to co-operate with us against the Mollah. Attached is a copy of my reply.

In another communication of the same date Mr. Gerolimato informs me that the Abyssinians have now not more than 2,000 men in the Ogaden, but that it is rumoured that Dejatch Berato, who left for Addis Abbaba with another 2,000 men about the 13th instant, would be likely to be recalled on the news being received that we proposed to form an expedition. Mr. Gerolimato has further received information that it is in contemplation to send 2,000 cavalry down from Addis Abbaba to operate in the Ogaden, and he tells me that preparations are being made in Harrar for the advance of the expedition.

It is probable that the object of our expedition, which has since been postponed, has been misrepresented to the King by interested parties at Addis Abbaba, and that the anxiety shown by the King may not be altogether due to a desire to co-operate with us. Information should have reached Addis Abbaba before this of the retreat of the Mollah, and of the absence of any apprehension now of a move on his part against the Abyssinian frontier, if such was ever intended.

Further news from Abyssinia is that Ras Mangasha, who was in Addis Abbaba without constraint, has lately been enchained and confined in the fortress of Ankober owing to a revolt of the Tigrins against Ras Makunnan. It is also reported that Leontieff has returned to Addis Abbaba, where it is rumoured he has lost the confidence of the King.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

P.S.—A copy of this despatch is being sent to Viscount Cromer and to Captain Harrington.

J. H. S.

 Inclosure 1 in No. 195.
Mr. Gerolimato to Consul-General Sadler.

(Confidential.)

Sir,

Harrar, October 17, 1899.

ACCORDING to instructions I received from Her Britannic Majesty's Acting Consul, Zeyla, I have informed by telephone His Majesty King Menelek about the expedition against the Mollah, Mohamed-ben-Abdullah. I stated that the operations will, of course, be most carefully confined to the limits of the British Protectorate.

Before yesterday, the 15th October, His Majesty the Emperor Menelek called me in the telephone, and told me to inform you that his desire is to postpone the expedition till after October, as he intends to send Abyssinian troops in Ogaden to co-operate with the British expedition against the Mollah, and that now it is very hot in the Ogaden and Dolbahanta.

His Majesty expects your reply anxiously.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. GEROLIMATO.

Inclosure 2 in No. 195.

Consul-General Sadler to Mr. Gerolimato.

(Confidential.)

Sir,

Aden, October 28, 1899.

IN reply to your Confidential letter of the 17th instant, I have the honour to request that you will inform King Menelek, by telephone, with my compliments, that I will communicate to Her Majesty's Government His Majesty's desire to co-operate with us in the suppression of the Mollah, Mohamed Abdullah, and that for the present our expedition has been postponed.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

No. 196.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 13.)

(No. 201.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, November 13, 1899.

ACCORDING to a message which left Siwah on the 23rd ultimo, Sheikh Senoussi has started from the Kafra Oasis in the direction of Bornu.

I have communicated this information to the French Agent here, as I thought it would be courteous to do so.

No. 197.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 15.)

(No. 193.)

My Lord,

Cairo, November 11, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a copy of issue No. 6 of the "Soudan Gazette," containing certain Laws and Regulations recently promulgated by the Soudan Government.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CROMER.

Inclosure in No. 197.

The "Soudan Gazette" of November 2, 1899.

(Published by authority of the Soudan Government.)

SOUDAN LAWS.

Proclamation.

THE following Law for the good government of the Soudan is hereby issued by Proclamation in pursuance of the powers to that effect which are vested in the Governor-General of the Soudan:—

"The Wady Halfa and Suakin General Ordinance, 1899."

(Signed)

KITCHENER OF KHARTOUM,

Governor-General.

An Ordinance for Regulating the Application of General Laws and Regulations to the Districts of Wady Halfa and Suakin.

It is hereby enacted as follows :—

1. In the application of any general law, order, or regulation to the district of Wady Halfa or to the district of Suakin, the word "Mudir" shall be deemed to include "Governor or Administrator"; the word "Mudirieh" shall be deemed to include a "Governorate"; and the word "Province" shall be deemed to include a "District."

2. This Ordinance may be cited as "The Wady Halfa and Suakin General Ordinance, 1899."

(Signed) KITCHENER OF KHARTOUM,
Governor-General.

Notice.

In accordance with paragraphs 1 and 2 of "The Land Tax Ordinance, 1899," the Governor-General hereby orders that this Law shall take effect in the Mudirieh of Dongola, the district of Wady Halfa, and the Mamuriehs of Robatab and Berber in Berber Mudirieh.

Notice.

The Governor-General has ordered that the duty to be charged on tobacco grown in the interior, south of Khartoum, will be 20 per cent., and that rhinoceros horns shall be classified with ivory for taxation purposes.

APPOINTMENT.

Halfa District.

Police Officer.

El Yusbashi Mohamed Effendi Sadik, to be Police Officer, Halfa, the 1st May, 1899.

TRANSFERS.

Sennar Mudirieh.

Mamurs.

El Yusbashi Hamid Effendi Zeki, Mamur Sennar, to be Mamur Roseires, 16th October, 1899.

El Yusbashi Ali Effendi Mahmud, Mamur Roseires, to be Mamur Sennar, 16th October, 1899.

Liquor Licences.

Kassala Mudirieh.

With reference to the "Soudan Gazette" No. 3 of the 31st July last, the name of Mr. Lyonado Passiama, who holds a licence in this Mudirieh, is hereby removed from the list of licence holders, and that of Mr. Yani Pasfidis substituted.

Finance Circular No. 2.

Royalties.—In future the rates for the principal articles on which royalties are taken will be fixed by the Central Government.

The Ordinance on this subject provides (section 3) that "the royalty may, at the option of the owner, be paid in kind or in cash according to a scale of prices to be exhibited in the weighing office.

"Where the royalty is paid in kind and the goods are of varying quality, the goods delivered as royalty shall, so far as may be, be selected proportionately from the various qualities."

In order to ascertain the rates at which the Government will receive the equivalent of the legal proportion of the articles taxed, if payment is made in money, the prices prevailing in Cairo must be the standard, in the case of articles having an outside market.

The Controller of Stores will keep himself informed of these prices, and, subject to the approval of the Financial Secretary, will base on them the scale of local prices to be charged from time to time, and communicate them to the Mudir to be posted in the weighing offices according to the Ordinance. The Mudir will make any observations on these scales he thinks desirable from time to time to the Financial Secretary.

Merchants may be consulted, at the discretion of the Mudir or of the Controller, in this matter, but only by way of obtaining information. Their acquiescence in the scale of prices to be fixed from time to time is unnecessary.

In the case of articles which are for the most part for local consumption, and on which a tax has been authorized, the scale of prices may be fixed by the Mudir, in such manner as he may find expedient, without reference to head-quarters, but the scales of prices so fixed must be reported quarterly to the Controller of Stores, for the information of the Financial Secretary.

By order of the Governor-General,
(Signed) E. G. HARMAN,
Financial Secretary, Soudan Government.

Omdurman, September 29, 1899.

Finance Circular No. 3.

Soudan Audit Office.—There has been established at Cairo, as an experimental measure, an office for the audit of the Soudan Government accounts, and for sundry other business in Cairo. The office is entitled the "Soudan Audit Office" (telegraphic address, "Ferasudan"), and is placed under the control of the Financial Secretary to the Soudan Government. An Assistant Financial Secretary, Kaïmakam O'Leary Bey, has been appointed, who will be stationed at Cairo, and act under the direction of the Financial Secretary.

For the present, Mudirs will send in their monthly accounts, with the accompanying forms and vouchers, addressed to the Financial Secretary to the Soudan, at the Soudan Audit Office, War Office, Cairo, and will send at the same time a duplicate of the accounts (without vouchers or accompanying forms) addressed to the Financial Secretary at Omdurman.

With a view to closing the accounts of the Government at the proper time, it is of great importance that the accounts for October and November—particularly those for November—should be rendered punctually.

By order of the Governor-General,
(Signed) E. G. HARMAN,
Financial Secretary, Soudan Government.

Omdurman, September 30, 1899.

SOUDAN GOVERNMENT.

Fees for Civil Hospitals.

1. Persons in the employment of the Government who are treated in civil hospitals will be charged hospital stoppages at the following rates, viz. :—

							P.T.
For persons with monthly pay and allowances exceeding £ E. 12 ..							5 a-day.
Not exceeding £ E. 12 and exceeding £ E. 8 ..							4 "
"	"	8	"	"	5	"	3 "
"	"	5	"	"	3	"	2 "
"	"	3	"	"	"	"	1 "

2. Persons not in Government employment will, except as stated in rule 3, be charged fees according to means at the following rates, viz. :—

							P.T.
1st category	..	..	..	..	..	..	5 a-day.
2nd "	..	..	..	..	..	..	4 "
3rd "	..	..	..	..	..	..	3 "
4th "	..	..	..	..	..	..	2 "
5th "	..	..	..	..	..	..	1 "

The category in which such persons should be placed will be determined by the Mudir or other responsible civil authority.

3. Gratuitous treatment may be allowed, and medicines to out-patients may be supplied without charge, in cases only of extreme indigence, when certified by the Mudir.

4. Government servants wounded during or through the execution of their duties will be treated free of cost.

By order of the Governor-General,
(Signed) E. G. HARMAN,
Financial Secretary, Soudan Government.

Omdurman, September 30, 1899.

No. 198.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 15.)

(No. 202.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, November 15, 1899.

DELIMITATION of Abyssinian frontier.

Sir Rennell Rodd will leave Cairo to-morrow for Rome. Her Majesty's Ambassador has been informed.

No. 199.

Mr. Harrington to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 18.)

(No. 65. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Aden, November 2, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to forward, for your Lordship's information, a letter from His Majesty King Menelek, and a translation of the same, dated the 5th October.

Your Lordship will observe that His Majesty has given the necessary orders concerning the Soudan survey parties, and expresses a wish that the surveys may not delay the settlement of affairs between the two countries.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. L. HARRINGTON.

Inclosure in No. 199.

King Menelek to Mr. Harrington.

(Traduction.)

Lion vainqueur de la tribu de Juda Ménélek II, élu du Seigneur Roi des Rois d'Éthiopie, à Mr. Harrington, Agent Diplomatique du Gouvernement Anglais.
Salut !

J'AI bien reçu votre lettre du 8 Septembre, et j'ai été très content d'apprendre que les affaires que nous avons discutées ensemble ont trouvées un accueil favorable auprès du Gouvernement Anglais. J'ai appris aussi avec plaisir que vous allez envoyer des gens pour établir les cartes du côté du Soudan et du Lac Rodolph, et j'ai donné les ordres nécessaires à mes fonctionnaires en cas de rencontre de bien les recevoir et j'ai ordonné aussi qu'ils étudient les pays d'accord avec les vôtres.

J'espère cependant que les affaires que nous avons traitées ne subissent pas un retard à cause de ces études cartographiques et je vous attend ici avec impatience sous peu, me rappelant la promesse que vous m'aviez fait en partant d'ici d'être de retour à Addis Abbaba vers le 15 Octobre.

Écrit à Addis Abbaba, le 5 Octobre, 1899.

No. 200.

Mr. Gray to Foreign Office.—(Received November 18.)

Sir,

2, Paper Buildings, Temple, November 17, 1899.

IN reply to Sir Thomas Sanderson's letter of the 7th November with reference to Queen's Regulations for Somaliland relating to mines, and minerals, fire-arms, and alcoholic liquors, I have the honour to report as follows :—

I have amended the headings of the three sets of Regulations, so as to secure uniformity. Each set should be issued by the Consul-General by a notification which may be in the accompanying form.

With respect to the Regulations for the importation of alcoholic liquors, the term "alcoholic liquors" is used in some places; in others "distilled or alcoholic liquors." The former expression would seem to be sufficient.

I have ventured to amend the first Regulation as to the date on which the Regulations are to come into force. A period of six months from the promulgation of the Regulations seems to me somewhat long; but, in any case, a particular day of a month is more satisfactory than a date reckoned by months.

In certain parts of the Regulations reference is made to licences, but there is no provision made with respect to the issue of licences, or their conditions. I am not aware whether the Consul-General has already made such provision, or whether he intends to submit separate Regulations for this purpose.

The last two paragraphs of Regulation 2, as printed, did not appear to me to be consistent. In the first of these, "native" is defined as a person born in Africa, &c.; in the last, exemption is provided for foreigners of Eastern extraction "who are not African born." The exemption thus indicates a class who are not covered by the main prohibition. By the amendments suggested the prohibition will extend to all persons other than Europeans, while the exemption will apply to respectable persons of Asiatic parentage. The word "foreigner" is inconvenient, as the exemption may be required for a British subject.

The first sentence of Regulation 6 does not seem to be required.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

A. GRAY.

No. 201.

Sir F. Plunkett to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 20.)

(No. 225.)

My Lord,

Brussels, November 18, 1899.

I HAVE not conversed with any of the Congolese officials for some time, and I have seen nothing new of importance with regard to the Bahr-el-Ghazal since I addressed to your Lordship my despatch No. 130, Africa, of the 30th ultimo.

I notice, however, in the Census Returns of the European population of the Congo State, forwarded to your Lordship to-day in my despatch No. 152, Africa, that, on the 1st January, 1899, there were in the district of Lado Redjaf:—

Belgians	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	50
Danes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Egyptians	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Norwegians	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Swedes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	62

It is fair to suppose that all these were officials in the service of the Congo State, and your Lordship will notice that there were no English at all, although our countrymen figure, to a greater or lesser extent, in the Returns furnished from most of the other divisions of the Independent State.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. R. PLUNKETT.

No. 202.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 21.)

(No. 204.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, November 21, 1899.

I RECEIVED last night following telegram from the Sirdar:—

“It is rumoured that the Khalifa has reached Gedid and that Ahmed Fedil is now at Drefissa, which is a pool situated about 23 miles from the Nile on the road to Gedid. This evening the troops under Wingate and Lewis leave Faki Kohi; and it is hoped Fedil may be surprised to-morrow. The force is composed of six maxims, six mountain guns, 1,700 rifles, two black battalions, and 1,100 Jehadia, with complete transport; also one squadron and 500 of the Camel Corps.”

No. 203.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received November 23.)

Sir,

India Office, November 21, 1899.

I AM directed by the Secretary of State for India in Council to forward a copy of a letter from the Government of India, dated the 27th July last, with its inclosures, regarding the incidence of the leave allowances and pensions of officers employed in the Somali Coast Protectorate.

So far as regards those whose service is entirely rendered in the Protectorate, the view of the Government of India appears to be in accordance with your letter to the Treasury of the 4th August, 1898, and Sir Francis Mowatt's reply, dated the 16th of that month, accepting such a liability estimated as equal to a present payment of 9,000 rupees a-year.

With reference to the case of officers who have served under the Government of India, as distinct from the Protectorate, and who remain in the latter territory, of which the case of Mr. Malcolm Jones, mentioned in your letter of the 8th September last, is an example, it appears to Lord George Hamilton that they are entitled to the benefits of the Superannuation Act of 1892 and the Rules issued thereunder. If this view is accepted by the Treasury, the pension for the whole joint service would be

divided ratably between the respective Administrations, Indian revenues bearing the charge due for service under the Government of India out of Somaliland, subject, however, to the maximum limits admissible by the Indian Regulations for service under that Government.

As regards officers of the Indian service who are temporarily paid from the local revenues of the Protectorate, Lord George Hamilton concurs in the view of the Government of India that they should be required to pay to the Comptroller of India Treasuries the prescribed contribution, and that Indian revenues should bear the charge of their leave allowances and pensions.

I am, &c.
(Signed) A. GODLEY.

Inclosure 1 in No. 203.

Government of India to Lord G. Hamilton.

My Lord,

Simla, July 27, 1899.

WE have the honour to forward a copy of a letter from the Government of Bombay regarding the incidence of the leave allowances and pension charges of the two officers of the Bombay Political Department (Lieutenants Harold and Cordeaux), whose services have been lent to the Somali Coast Administration.

2. We understand that from the 1st October, 1898, when the control of the Somali Coast Protectorate was transferred to Her Majesty's Government—

(i.) All pensions awarded for service exclusively in the Protectorate will be paid by Her Majesty's Government from the Somali Coast revenues;

(ii.) Pensions to officers who remain permanently in the Protectorate, and who have had previous service in India (as distinct from the Protectorate), will be divided between Her Majesty's Government and the Government of India in the proportions indicated in Article 517 of the Civil Service Regulations; and

(iii.) Officers of the Indian services lent for temporary service in the Protectorate, like Lieutenants Harold and Cordeaux, should pay the contributions for leave allowances and pension prescribed in the Civil Service Regulations for officers in foreign service of the first kind.

3. We shall be glad to learn whether these views are indorsed by Her Majesty's Government.

We have, &c.
(Signed) CURZON OF KEDLESTON.
W. S. A. LOCKHART.
E. H. H. COLLEN.
C. M. RIVAZ.
C. E. DAWKINS.
T. RALEIGH.
R. GARDINER.

Inclosure 2 in No. 203.

Government of Bombay to Government of India.

Bombay Castle, April 11, 1899.

I AM directed to submit, for the consideration and orders of the Government of India, the question of the incidence of the leave allowance and pension charges of the two officers of the Bombay Political Department (Lieutenants Harold and H. E. S. Cordeaux), whose services have been lent to the Somali Coast Administration.

2. There is no rule in the Civil Service Regulations which covers the case of the officers of the Aden Political Residency transferred to the Foreign Office, London, with the Somali Coast Protectorate, but on the analogy of Articles 516 and 517 of the Civil Service Regulations, the pensions of such officers would appear, on their final retirement from the service, to be divisible between the Indian and English Governments in the proportion of their qualifying service under these Governments, as so many sixtieths of the average emoluments of their qualifying service under the Indian Government and so many sixtieths of the average emoluments under the English Government. The leave allowances also of these officers would appear to be divisible

between the English and the Indian Governments in the proportion of service rendered to these Governments.

3. In the absence of any specific ruling on the subject, I am to request that the Government of India may be moved to pass orders in the matter, and to decide whether any contribution for leave or pension should be recovered on account of these officers.

No. 204.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 23.)

(No. 205.)

(Telegraphic.) *En clair.*

Cairo, November 23, 1899.

FOLLOWING from Sirdar to-day :—

“Wingate found Drefissa evacuated, and pushed on to Abu Adil, 4 miles further, where Ahmed Fedil's force was found encamped. They were at once engaged by mounted troops under Mahon, with four Maxims, two guns, and Jehadia under Gorringe.

“Dervishes charged with all their old dash to within 80 yards of guns. Wingate with infantry arrived in time to support Mahon and cleared the whole dem, Dervishes bolting through the bush, followed by mounted troops.

“Wingate estimates Fedil's force to have been 2,400, of which 400 have been killed. He has also taken a considerable number of prisoners, quantity of grain, rifles, spears, &c.

“Our casualties are one Egyptian captain mortally wounded, one trooper Camel Corps and one Jehadia slightly.

“Wingate's further movements depend on his finding water. All troops well. I consider operations have been carried out in most creditable manner.”

Sirdar's telegram ends.

I am publishing this here.

No. 205.

Foreign Office to Consul-General Sadler.

(No. 113.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 24, 1899.

THE Marquess of Salisbury has had under his consideration the drafts of the Regulations respecting mines and minerals, the use of fire-arms, and the importation of alcoholic liquors which are to be issued by you under “The Somaliland Order in Council, 1899.”

The Regulations respecting mines and minerals and the use of fire-arms have received his Lordship's approval, and instructions for their issue will shortly be sent to you.

With regard to the Regulations for the importation and sale of alcoholic liquors, I am to inform you that they have been revised in consultation with Mr. Gray, and I am to transmit to you a printed copy showing the form in which they at present stand.* Mr. Gray, however, points out that in certain passages reference is made to licences, but that no provision is made with respect to their issue or conditions.

The Zanzibar Ordinance, on which your draft was founded, itself contained no special provision as to licences, but it was expressly stated that they would continue to be regulated by the Ordinance of the 31st May, 1892.

It would seem convenient in the present case that the Regulations respecting the importation and sale of alcoholic liquors should also contain provision for the issue of licences; and I am therefore to request that you will frame an additional Regulation to deal with that point.

For this purpose it may be useful to compare the Zanzibar Ordinance of 1892 and the British Central Africa Regulations, of which copies are inclosed.

I am, &c.

(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

* Draft Alcoholic Regulations.

No. 206.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 25.)

(No. 195.)

My Lord,

Cairo, November 15, 1899.

WITH reference to your Lordship's despatch No. 228 of the 2nd instant, I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship herewith a note, drawn up by Mr. E. Bonham-Carter, the Judicial Adviser to the Soudan Government, giving the substance of the police Regulations under which the sale of alcoholic liquors in the Soudan is placed, in accordance with section 4 of the Licence (Liquor) Ordinance of 1899.

In forwarding this note to me, Lord Kitchener states that he is quite satisfied that at present there is no traffic in liquor to natives in the Soudan, and that he is prepared to take further steps in the matter, should any such be found necessary hereafter.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CROMER.

Inclosure in No. 206.

Memorandum by Mr. E. Bonham-Carter.

SECTION 4 of "The Licence (Liquor) Ordinance, 1899," puts the sale of alcoholic liquors strictly under police Regulations. These Regulations provide, amongst other matters :—

"The licensee will deposit in the Local Government Treasury the sum of 50*l.*, which will be liable to forfeiture if he does not strictly comply with these Regulations, as well as those issued by the local authorities.

"Any licensee detected in possession of liquors of a deleterious character will be liable to have his whole stock confiscated, his licence withdrawn, and his deposit of 50*l.* forfeited.

"Medical officers will examine liquors in the possession of licensees from time to time."

The Mudirs (local Governors) have been ordered to take precautions to insure that no liquor is sold to natives. They have full power to forfeit the deposit of 50*l.*, or to refuse the renewal of any licence. It is believed that hitherto the expressed intention of the Government that there shall be no sale of alcoholic liquors to natives is fully carried out.

Owing to the requirements of the Ordinance, the import duties, and the cost of carriage, the price of spirits is so high as to be beyond the means of natives. And the licences, which have been issued, have been strictly limited in number, and have been confined to places where there is a European population.

(Signed) E. BONHAM-CARTER.

No. 207.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 25.)

(No. 207.)

(Telegraphic.) *En clair.*

Cairo, November 25, 1899.

FOLLOWING from Sirdar :—

"Wingate and his force came up with Khalifa's force 7 miles south-east of Gedid, attacked and, after sharp fight, took the position. Khalifa, surrounded by bodyguard of Emirs, was killed. All principal Emirs were killed or taken prisoners except Osman Digna, who escaped. Whole camp, women, cattle, &c., were taken, and thousands of prisoners, most of whom surrendered. Force is marching back to river. Our loss slight. Will wire you further details later. Soudan may now be declared open."

No. 208.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 25.)

(No. 208.)

(Telegraphic.) *En clair.*

Cairo, November 25, 1899.

FOLLOWING is summary of further details received from Wingate through Sirdar :—

“Force marched by moonlight from Gedid and found Khalifa at Om Debrikat; Dervishes attacked at 5.15, and subsequently whole Egyptian line advanced and swept through Dervish position for 2 miles. List of Emirs killed and wounded is given; it includes, besides Khalifa, Ahmed Fedil, Ali Wad Helu, also two brothers of the Khalifa and Mahdi's son. Osman Digna left directly firing began; Wingate hopes to capture him. He speaks most highly of behaviour and endurance of troops, who marched 60 miles and fought two decisive actions in sixty-one hours. Egyptian loss, 3 killed, 12 wounded.”

No. 209.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Viscount Cromer.

(No. 115.)

(Telegraphic.) *En clair.*

Foreign Office, November 25, 1899.

HER Majesty's Government have received the news of the victories over the Khalifa's forces with great satisfaction. Please convey our hearty congratulations to the Khedive, and assure the Sirdar, Wingate, and all concerned of our high appreciation of their brilliant services.

No. 210.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 26.)

(No. 209.)

(Telegraphic.) *En clair.*

Cairo, November 26, 1899.

WINGATE has reached the river. Troops all well. He reports having taken 9,000 men, women, and children.

Osman Digna is not yet found.

No. 211.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 27.)

(No. 87. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Berbera, November 10, 1899.

ACCOUNTS from the Dolbahanta are very unsatisfactory. Reports, which have since been confirmed, have been received that about three weeks ago the Chief of the Dolbahanta, Ali Girad, of the Girad Farih, was treacherously murdered by order of the Mullah. The reasons assigned for this deed are that the Girad, who had always been well disposed towards us, refused to join the Mullah, and, contrary to his injunctions, had sent in a caravan with letters to Berbera, and had written to Sultan Jusuf Ali, of the Mijjertain, for assistance. Doubtless, another reason the Mullah had was to overawe the whole of the Dolbahanta. He is said to be still at Lasader, in the recesses of the Dolbahanta, and to have in contemplation the seizure of the twelve principal Sheikhs in that district, so as to get it completely under his control.

A few caravans have come in from the Dolbahanta, and these report that the Mullah is preparing for another move, in what direction is not known. The Jama Siad section of the Mahmood Girad report that he has impressed several hundred of their horses. Plentiful rain has now fallen throughout the Protectorate, which would facilitate a move by a body of horse.

In the Habr Toljaala country matters are quiet, except for raids and counter-raids between the friendly Mahomed Aysa and the tribes who were implicated in the recent

attacks on the friendlies. Several sections of the Habr Toljaala and of the eastern Habr Yunis have come in, asking for Aman and to be allowed to draw supplies as usual from our ports. These I am at present engaged in dealing with.

Although caravans are coming in from the Dolbahanta, no representative deputations from the various tribes have yet appeared. It is probable that after the murder of the Girad the principal Sheikhs will for some time be afraid to come to Berbera. I should mention that some of the persons employed to murder the Girad were of his own tribe, doubtless selected by the Mullah, so as to prevent a rising of the tribe against him.

All is quiet in the western districts on the Berbera side and in the Zeyla districts. At Zeyla there was some apprehension of scarcity owing to absence of rain; this has happily been dissipated by a timely and plentiful fall.

The stoppage of supplies to the eastern districts, except of small quantities required for the use of caravans, since the commencement of September has been productive of fairly good results. As stated above, several of the refractory tribes have come in, and deputations from others are expected.

To such tribes and sections as send in responsible deputations, I am now giving permission to take supplies from our ports, subject to the condition that they hold aloof entirely from the Mullah's movement, and engage to make good all loss and damage done by them during the recent disturbances, and abstain from selling supplies to any of the tribes who have not yet made their submission.

On all supplies going to the eastern districts a levy is being made of 2 rupees per camel, and of 8 annas per donkey. Certain sections, whom I know not to have been implicated, have been told that the amount levied from them will be refunded. Others, whose complicity is doubtful, have been told that the tax will be removed as soon as it has been ascertained whether there are any claims against them or not. Whilst with those tribes who are responsible for most of the mischief the tax will have to continue in operation till their liabilities have been made good. But under no circumstances do I deem it advisable to let any supplies into the eastern districts free of the tax till I have received deputations from the majority of the Habr Toljaala and eastern Habr Yunis tribes. The Somalis play into each other's hands, and any supplies taken in free would be likely to find their way to the tribes who have not yet come in, and probably delay the arrival of their deputations.

In the case of certain specific acts hostile to the Administration, such as the seizure of our Baladiyahs and sending them to the Mullah, I am inflicting fines which have to be paid before supplies are allowed to be taken.

Circumstances have, unfortunately, prevented my summoning the deputations of the various tribes to meet me in the interior, where I should have been in a stronger position to deal with them. As it is, I have tried to make the best of the present position. The difficulty has been to take sufficient notice of past misdemeanours, and at the same time avoid any retributive measures which would have the effect of alienating the tribes from us, and throwing them into the hands of the Mullah. If these measures err, they err on the side of leniency. They are the best I can adopt under present conditions, and I trust they may meet with your Lordship's approval.

As regards the Dolbahanta, the most I can do until responsible deputations come in is to allow caravans to take supplies on payment of the tax, and with such precautions against supplies reaching the Mullah as it is possible to take. Any retributive measures against caravans belonging to Dolbahanta tribes who joined the Mullah would simply assist him to divert our trade from our ports.

There will be a certain amount of leakage at the flag ports, and the imposition of the tax will act as a stimulant to the non-duty-paid trade of those ports. This I cannot help. The effect will be but transitory, and with the present disturbed state of the Dolbahanta I have not yet seen my way to locate small detachments of our police in such isolated positions as Hais and Mait to control revenue collections—a measure for which I have already solicited and obtained your Lordship's sanction.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

No. 212.

Sir N. O'Connor to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 27.)

(No. 538.)

My Lord,

Constantinople, November 22, 1899.

A RECENT number of the "Maloumat" of Constantinople reported the arrival at Wadai of a body of Turkish troops which had set out from Tripoli. The expedition, I am informed, consisted of two regiments of cavalry, and took no less than forty days to accomplish the journey.

I have the honour to transmit to your Lordship a précis of another article from the same paper, commenting on this event.

I have, &c.
(Signed) N. R. O'CONOR.

Inclosure in No. 212.

Extract from the "Maloumat" of November 16, 1899.

THE "Servet" quotes an article from the "Maloumat," describing the arrival of Turkish troops at Wadai. The writer dwells on the fact that the Sultan is the sole protector of all Moslems throughout the world, and expresses joy at this accession of more than 2,000,000 to the total of Ottoman subjects.

In all probability the example will be followed by the people of Bournou, Baghirmi, Dar-el-Emana, Shikah, Massalit, whose total is at least 15,000,000 of Mussulmans.

No. 213.

Lord Currie to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 27.)

(No. 105.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Rome, November 27, 1899.

SIR R. RODD and myself met the Foreign Minister and the Governor of Erythræa at the Foreign Office yesterday.

It was settled that notes should be exchanged, in one of which Italy will agree that modifications of the line of 1891 to the south of Tomat shall be recognized. In the other, Italy will recognize the necessity of modifying, north of Tomat, that portion of the above-mentioned line which forms the boundary between the Soudan and Erythræa. It is proposed that the British authorities and the Governor of Erythræa shall settle the boundary on the spot. The latter will arrive in the locality next January.

We have satisfactorily disposed of other local questions.

No. 214.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 28.)

(No. 210.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, November 28, 1899.

I RECEIVED following telegram from the Sirdar yesterday :—

"I am informed by the Inspector of Kassala Mudiria that an Abyssinian officer has come to Galabat with thirty men for the collection of taxes, giving out that they are instructed to declare the country as far as Doka to be under Abyssinian rule. The market has been closed by the District Officer of Galabat, and the matter referred to me for decision. Claim is also laid to this province by Ras Dagakabda in a letter received by Sheikh Sherah of Galabat.

"I would advise that Inspector, who requests instructions, should go there and send message to Ras by Abyssinian officer, informing him that negotiations with King Menelek are now proceeding for the settlement of the frontier; natives of Galabat cannot therefore be taxed until these are concluded. He should at the same time tell

the officer that the King is meanwhile being informed of the matter, and request him to withdraw his party."

While approving course suggested by Sirdar, I have directed him to point out that Doka is a considerable distance outside the line which Menelek proposed to Harrington.

No. 215.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Lord Currie.

(No. 140.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Foreign Office, November 28, 1899.

SO far as we can judge here, the arrangement proposed with regard to the Abyssinian frontier, as reported in your telegram No. 104 of the 27th instant, appears to be highly satisfactory.

No. 216.

Deputy Commissioner Ternan to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 29.)

(No. 227.)

My Lord,

Port Alice, September 23, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to report that Lieutenant Bryde, of the Congo Free State, has arrived at Tunguru, on the west shore of the north end of Lake Albert, where he is about to establish a station.

It would appear probable that in the interests of local administration, it will be desirable, before long, to mark out on the ground, the border between British territory and the portion leased to the Congo Free State.

I have, &c.

(Signed) TREVOR TERNAN.

No. 217.

Deputy Commissioner Ternan to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 29.)

(No. 232.)

My Lord,

Port Alice, September 27, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to report that Captain Hicks, Commanding the troops at Fadfow, reports that Lieutenant Bryde's party at Tunguru's Mahagi, consists of 100 soldiers; Congo dwarfs about $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet high.

This party apparently has left Tunguru's and has moved south towards Kavalli's.

Natives report that a large force which is following this advanced party, and is coming from the direction of Dufilé, is proceeding to occupy the Kavalli's district.

I have, &c.

(Signed) TREVOR TERNAN.

No. 218.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received November 29.)

(No. 211.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, November 29, 1899.

SIRDAR telegraphed yesterday as follows:—

"Owing to insecurity of roads in El Obeid district, and as there has been much disturbance locally, I suggest dispatch of small force there soon. We have had several

protests from Ali Dinar of Darfur concerning the roads ; and the post of friendly Arabs which we have at Bara cannot be trusted to keep order. There is no danger to troops passing through that country.

"Have I your approval?"

I have approved by telegraph.

No. 219.

Foreign Office to Consul-General Sadler.

(No. 114.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 29, 1899.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to transmit to you the accompanying copy of a despatch which has been addressed to Her Majesty's Commissioners in East Africa, Central Africa, and Uganda,* requesting them to issue Regulations in their respective Administrations for securing details of the game killed by holders of licences.

I am to inquire whether you consider that a similar Regulation could usefully be applied in the Somali Coast Protectorate, and to request that, if so, you will take the necessary action.

I am, &c.

(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 220.

Foreign Office to Consul-General Sadler.

(No. 115.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, November 30, 1899.

WITH reference to your despatch No. 43 of the 23rd May, I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to transmit to you, for such observations as you may have to offer, copy of a letter from the India Office regarding the incidence of the leave allowances and pensions of officers employed in the Somaliland Protectorate.†

Lord Salisbury understands that the sum of 9,000 rupees provided for in your estimates is intended to meet the case of the officers of the Indian Service temporarily paid from the revenues of the Protectorate, and not, as would appear from the India Office letter, those whose service is entirely rendered in the Protectorate.

I am, &c.

(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 221.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 4.)

(No. 88.)

My Lord,

Berbera, November 11, 1899.

AFTER careful consideration of the proposals made by M. Ilg in the accompaniment to Captain Harrington's despatch to your Lordship No. 64 of the 15th September last, I am of opinion that his first proposal, namely, that notes of exemption should be given at Zeyla to the tribes of our Protectorate using the Zeyla-Gildessa caravan route, is the only one we can accept.

There are serious objections to entertaining M. Ilg's alternative proposal that the tax on black Aysa camels should be collected at Zeyla. The raid, I understand, was committed in French territory by tribes belonging to the French Protectorate, with whom we have no particular concern. To tax such of those tribes who use our caravan route at the instance of the Abyssinian Government would throw on us an invidious responsibility which I do not think we should undertake. The difficulty of discriminating between those who should and those who should not be taxed amongst natives coming from the French Protectorate would occur almost to the same extent at Zeyla as it is found to be at Gildessa; whilst the keeping of accounts of a tax which it will take years to recover, the settlement of disputes which would be sure to arise, and the responsibility we should incur of providing against any taxable camels

* No. 193*.

† No. 203.

leaving Zeyla without the payment of the tax, would entail considerable extra work on our limited establishments. And there are other reasons why it does not seem to me expedient that we should interfere in the manner suggested by M. Ilg.

Altogether I am of opinion that in this matter of the punitive tax the Abyssinians should be left to make their own arrangements for its recovery from the parties concerned, and that our action should be properly limited to securing exemption for our tribes, who had no connection with the raid on account of which it has been imposed.

I am, accordingly, instructing the Acting Consul at Zeyla in this sense, pending the receipt of any further instructions your Lordship may deem fit to send me.

A copy of this despatch is being sent to Captain Harrington through our Consular Agent in Harrar.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

No. 222.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 4.)

(No. 89. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Berbera, November 14, 1899.

I WOULD wish to avert a misapprehension which may possibly have arisen as to the number of troops by which the garrisons on the coast were strengthened during the recent disturbances.

The reliefs sent round by the Resident at Aden numbered two native officers and 129 rank and file of the 10th Bombay Light Infantry, under a British officer.

As reported in my despatch No. 74 of the 10th September, I retained the British officer, one native officer, and fifty-three rank and file, at Berbera, with the old relief; at Bulhar and Zeyla the old reliefs were relieved by the new reliefs, and no reinforcements were retained.

The additional number of troops employed on the coast since the 1st September last is, therefore, one British officer, one native officer, and fifty-three rank and file; and not 200 men, as would seem to be the impression from the earlier correspondence on the subject.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

No. 223.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 7.)

(No. 90.)

My Lord,

Berbera, November 22, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to submit the report called for in Foreign Office despatch No. 97 of the 4th ultimo.

Accepting the average annual requirements of the Aden garrison at 1,100 cattle and 6,000 sheep, the figures given by the Political Resident, the loss that would be entailed on the revenues of the Protectorate if a refund of export duty be granted on that number would be 5,900 rupees annually; which tallies approximately with the estimate of 5,720 rupees made by the Government of India of the annual loss to contractors based on the average consumption of the garrison for the three years ending in 1898.

There appears, however, to be reason to question whether these 1,100 cattle and 6,000 sheep all come from the Somali Coast, or, if they do so, whether they are all duty-paid animals.

In paragraph 5 of his despatch No. 13 of the 12th May last, which formed one of the inclosures to your Lordship's despatch under reply, the Political Resident, Aden, gives the conclusions arrived at in February 1897 by the Commissary-General in Chief, when estimating the total quantity of live-stock annually required to be imported for the support of Aden—the garrison and civil population included. Working on the actuals of the past four years General Hobday then estimated that the annual requirements of Aden were 2,000 cattle and 82,700 sheep and goats, of which 1,000 cattle

and 79,400 sheep and goats came from the Somali Coast ports, and the remainder, 1,000 cattle and 3,300 sheep and goats, were imported from Arabia.

From Returns with which I have been favoured by the Resident I find that the average annual importation into Aden of live-stock from the Somali Coast for the last three years is 1,676 cattle and 78,283 sheep and goats; of which 1,490 cattle and 67,477 sheep and goats were exported from ports at which duty is now levied, and 186 cattle and 10,756 sheep and goats from ports where duty is not levied, and which would therefore be passed free. There is also a small annual average importation into Aden of 7 cattle and 890 sheep and goats from the Mijjertein ports, where the tax is not operative. Adding to these figures General Hobday's estimate of importations from Arabia, which are, of course, not affected by the duty, we arrive at the following average of life-stock annually imported into Aden :—

Cattle	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,683
Sheep and goats	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	82,423

Of which 1,490 cattle and 67,477 sheep and goats may now be said to be duty-paid, and 1,193 cattle and 14,946 sheep and goats non duty-paid.

In other words, of the total importations of live-stock into Aden 53·30 per cent. of the cattle, and 81·86 per cent. of the sheep and goats may now be held to come under the operation of the duty lately imposed at our ports.

Of this total supply the garrison only requires 1,100 cattle and 6,000 sheep. It would, I submit, be most difficult to determine what proportion of the live-stock supplied to the Aden garrison pays duty and what does not. It may be presumed that the contractors will always buy in the cheapest market, and we see that there is a wide margin, more than is required by the contractors for the supply of the garrison, in which they can purchase stock which does not pay duty at our ports.

Assuming that the effect of the duty levied at the coast ports has been to raise the price of meat all round at Aden, it would not do so to the extent of the full duty charged on each animal. The extra cost in the market per head of each class would be proportionate to the ratio between the duty-paid and non duty-paid animals for the time being; it should vary with that ratio, and it would be less than the actual duty levied. In the case of cattle, it will be observed that the ratio between duty-paid and non duty-paid animals is but little over 1 to 1.

The arguments in favour of a remission of the duty, so far as the Aden garrison is concerned, apply mainly to a period when the coast was attached to the Aden Residency, when the responsibilities for the administration of the Protectorate rested with the Government of India, and when the surplus revenues of the Protectorate went to the Imperial Indian Treasury.

The case is now different. The Government of India has been relieved of all responsibilities connected with the Administration, the Protectorate is dependent on its own resources, and for all extraneous assistance it receives it has to pay.

I should, however, have been glad, in view of the close connection which has existed for so many years between the Protectorate and Aden, and the fact that we are still dependent on Aden for assistance in cases of emergency, to be able to recommend that the wishes of the Government of India be met in this particular instance, were it possible to do so. As it is, our establishments are on the lowest scale compatible with efficiency, our revenue is inelastic, and our expenditure has increased. I do not, under these circumstances, think we are in a position to dispense with the revenue which we should lose by admitting this claim.

If it be decided that the principle of a rebate should be admitted I am of opinion that, having regard to the difficulty there would be in ascertaining what animals consumed by the Aden garrison came from our duty ports and what were otherwise imported, this abatement should take the form of a fixed annual sum, which I should be inclined to put at 3,500 rupees, in view of the ratio between the taxed and untaxed animals to which previous reference has been made. This would practically amount to a yearly contribution by the Protectorate to the upkeep of the Aden garrison. It would naturally cease when the conditions noted in paragraph 6 of the Resident's despatch above quoted are attained.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

No. 224.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 7.)

(No. 91. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Berbera, November 23, 1899.

AS everything is now quiet on this side of the Protectorate, and I have heard nothing further of any probable advance from the Dolbahanta, it is desirable to relieve the Protectorate of the cost that is being incurred by the employment of extra troops at Berbera.

I have, accordingly, this day requested the Political Resident, Aden, to withdraw the British officer and extra detachment of native infantry when the usual reliefs come round early next month.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

No. 225.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 7.)

(No. 92. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Berbera, November 23, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to submit for your Lordship's information copy of a letter, with three inclosures, received from our Consular Agent in Harrar, and of my reply thereto.

It is extraordinary that the Acting Governor of Harrar should have taken upon himself to announce, as a probable fact, that Abyssinian troops will perhaps cross our frontier in pursuit of Ogaden tribes, and to request that the authorities at Berbera be informed in the matter.

I need hardly say that if there be any question of an Abyssinian force crossing the border of the British Protectorate, which it would be most inadvisable to allow in the present instance, the matter could only be considered by Her Majesty's Government on a representation made in a formal manner by the King Menelek.

I would submit for your Lordship's consideration whether it would not be desirable that Her Majesty's Agent in Abyssinia should take an early opportunity of drawing the King's attention to Gurasmach Bante's procedure in this matter.

A copy of this despatch is being sent to Lord Cromer and to Captain Harrington.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

; Inclosure 1 in No. 225.

Mr. Gerolimato to Consul-General Sadler.

Sir,

Harrar, November 7, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to forward to you herewith the copy of two letters I have addressed to Gurasmach Bante, Acting Governor of Harrar, and the translation of a letter I received from his Excellency concerning the camels looted by Ogaden tribes from our tribes.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. GEROLIMATO,

Her Britannic Majesty's Consular Agent, Harrar.

Inclosure 2 in No. 225.

Mr. Gerolimato to the Acting Governor of Harrar.

Excellence,

Harrar, le 31 Octobre, 1899.

CONFORMÉMENT à la demande verbale de votre Excellence, j'ai l'honneur de vous envoyer ci-jointe une liste des chameaux volés par les tribus de Rer Ali et Rer Haroun, aux tribus Somalis, sujets Anglais.

Le montant de cette liste est de 605 chameaux, et dernièrement ont volé encore les Ogaden 135 chameaux des tribus de Habr Yunis Ganboor près de la place Toyo, le total donc est de 740 chameaux.

Je viens d'apprendre que les Ogaden ont pris encore beaucoup de chameaux des Habr Awal, et 413 chameaux de Abu-bakr-Musa, mais pour cela je n'ai pas encore des nouvelles des autorités de Berbera.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) J. GEROLIMATO

Inclosure 3 in No. 225.

The Acting Governor of Harrar to Mr. Gerolimato.

(Translation from Amharic.)

Peace be unto you,

Harrar, 22 Tamkat 1892 (November 1, 1899).

THE letter you addressed to me yesterday, 31st October, 1899 (European date), 21st Tamkat, 1892 (Ethiopian date), and the list of the camels looted by Rer Ali and Rer Haroun, I received, and I have to thank you.

From our side our tribes are asking for some camels looted by your tribes.

The camels looted by Rer Ali and Rer Haroun friendly or by force I will restore them, but I beg to inform you that for this result I am forced to send in Ogaden some troops, and I fear that when our troops arrive there, Ogaden tribes will escape and perhaps will cross the British frontier, and I will be obliged then to follow them, and I ask you to be good enough to inform about that, the authorities of Berbera.

Soon or late I will restore the camels looted.

Salutation.

(Seal.) (Signed) GURASMATCH BANTE.

Inclosure 4 in No. 225.

Mr. Gerolimato to the Acting Governor of Harrar.

Excellence,

Harrar, le 4 Novembre, 1899.

J'AI reçu la lettre à la date du 22 Tamkat, 1892 (1^{er} Novembre, 1899), que votre Excellence m'a adressé et par laquelle je suis très content d'apprendre que votre Excellence est décidé de nous rendre les chameaux pillés aux tribus Somalis, sujets Anglais, par les Rer Ali et Rer Haroun.

De cette même lettre j'ai compris que votre Excellence, conformément à l'Article I^{er} du Traité entre la Grande-Bretagne et l'Éthiopie, demande la permission de passer la frontière dans le cas où les Rer Ali et Rer Haroun échappant devant les troupes Abyssines entreraient dans le territoire Anglais. Votre Excellence me prie d'informer les autorités de Berbera de cette demande, ce que je ferais par le courrier prochain, informant aussi Mr. J. L. Harrington, Agent Diplomatique de Sa Majesté Britannique en Éthiopie, et qui doit arriver aujourd'hui à Zeyla.

Certainement votre Excellence, pour éviter toutes les graves conséquences, donnera un ordre formel aux troupes Abyssines de ne pas passer la frontière avant la réponse de l'Agent Diplomatique de Sa Majesté Britannique et des autorités de Berbera soit reçue.

Quant à la réclamation des tribus d'Ogaden pour les chameaux pillés par nos tribus je m'étonne, et c'est la première fois que j'entends parler, n'ayant jamais eu aucune nouvelle de cette affaire et je crois que les tribus d'Ogaden font maintenant cette réclamation exprès pour contrebalancer notre réclamation, et je prie votre Excellence de bien noter que je vous ai envoyé concerne les chameaux pillés par les Rer Ali et Rer Haroun seulement cette année, et qu'il y a beaucoup des chameaux pillés à nos tribus les années précédentes par les mêmes tribus Ogaden et que nous n'avons pas réclamé et pour lesquelles nous réservons nos droits.

Veuillez, &c.
(Signé) J. GEROLIMATO.

Inclosure 5 in No. 225.

Consul-General Sadler to Mr. Gerolimato.

(Confidential.)

Sir,

Berbera, November 23, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant with inclosures.

It would be undesirable in every respect that the Abyssinian force operating in the Ogaden should cross the frontier of the British Protectorate, and I approve of the communication you made to the Acting Governor of Harrar on the subject in your letter of the 4th instant.

Captain Harrington, to whom you have also referred the matter, should arrive in Harrar within the next few days, and before this reaches you he will doubtless have taken steps to impress on Gurasmach Bante the necessity of strictly adhering to the terms of the Treaty.

I shall address you again on the subject of the return of the loot claimed by our tribes. Further cases of raids by the Rer Ali and Rer Haroun Ogaden on our tribes have been reported to me, in connection with which inquiries are being instituted to ascertain correctly the number of animals raided and damage done.

I have, &c.

(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

No. 226.

Foreign Office to Consul-General Sadler.

(No. 118.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 8, 1899.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch of the 11th ultimo, No. 88, containing your observations on the proposals made to Mr. Harrington by M. Ilg with respect to securing the exemption of the tribes of the British Protectorate from the tax on camels levied by orders of King Menelek at Gildessa.

I am to state that his Lordship concurs in the view of the matter taken by you, and approves of your instructions to the Acting Consul at Zeyla.

I am, &c.

(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 227.

Consul-General de Courcy Perry to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 9.)

(No. 4. Africa. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Antwerp, December 8, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to inform your Lordship that last evening Mr. George Paget Walford, one of our principal British merchants here, and the English Director of the Belgian Company who took up Count Leontieff's Concessions for the development of the Equatorial Provinces of Ethiopia, called upon me to talk about Count Leontieff's movements in Abyssinia, which appear to him to be contrary to the plan laid out before the Count's last departure for Africa, inasmuch as it was arranged that Count Leontieff should explore between Harrar and Lugh on the Juba.

The Company now received a telegram from Count Leontieff, saying that he is on his way home "via Djibouti," and as Mr. Walford thought that the message might be deemed of interest at the Foreign Office he authorized me to communicate its contents confidentially to your Lordship. He also wished me to say that his Company would deprecate and disavow any action on the part of Count Leontieff which might act against English political interest, it being specially stipulated on the Articles of Association that the object that the Company had in view was purely of a commercial nature. Count Leontieff's telegram runs as follows:—

"J'arrive en congé Europe; très satisfait résultat; pays tranquille, administration organisée; Ivoire bétail abondant. J'ai envoyé Chefd'œuvre, Leymarie et Docteur explorer entre Lacs Rodolph et Victoria par direction est. Leymarie repatriant moitié

No. 228*.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 10.)

(No. 93.)

My Lord,

Berbera, November 27, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to submit copy of a letter to my address from the Government of India in the Foreign Department, regarding the proposed employment of medical officers.

In paragraph 2 (1), (2), and (3) are contained the principles which the Government of India consider should apply from the 1st October, 1898, in regard to the pension, and contribution for leave allowances and pension of officials and officers of the Indian service serving in the Protectorate.

I trust I may be permitted to express my views on this general question so far as it affects the Protectorate revenues.

In regard to (1) and (2), so far as service after the 1st October, 1898, is concerned, I have no remarks to offer.

For service in the Protectorate, prior to the 1st October, 1898, it would seem that the proportionate share of pension for that service should be charged to Indian and not to Protectorate revenues. This principle has, indeed, been already admitted in two cases, to which reference was made in your Lordship's telegram of the 31st March, and despatch No. 84 of the 1st September last.

In the first case, that of Havildar Jama Sahal, a pension was awarded on the 14th March, 1896, for service partly performed under the Aden Residency and partly in the Protectorate. This pension, after the transfer of the Protectorate, was properly payable at the Aden Treasury, but as the pensioner is blind, and unable to proceed to Aden, arrangements have been made to pay him his pension from the Berbera Treasury, the India Office repaying the amounts disbursed.

In the second instance Hashi Gadid, late Arms Peon at Berbera, was granted an invalid gratuity for service, exclusively performed in the Protectorate, which expired on the 8th December, 1897. This gratuity was chargeable to Indian general revenues, it was paid at Berbera, and the amount will be refunded by the Government of India.

I am led to offer these remarks as it does not appear how it is proposed to treat service in the Protectorate prior to its transfer to the control of Her Majesty's Government.

In this connection it may be observed that whilst the Protectorate was under the Government of India, deductions were regularly made from the pay of the police, both mounted and foot, to cover pension charges. These deductions were credited to the revenues of the Somali Coast, which then went to the Government of India. It is also to be noted that had the Protectorate remained under India, and its revenues not sufficed to meet expenditure, pensions for service in the Protectorate would have fallen, practically, though indirectly, on Indian revenues. Similarly, if it be found necessary eventually to apply for a Parliamentary grant, pensions payable hereafter will practically fall on Imperial revenues.

With regard to (3), contributions for leave allowances and pensions of officers belonging to the Indian service temporarily lent to the Protectorate. Sections 808 and 809 of the Indian Civil Service Regulations provide for a contribution of one-fourth on a certain assumed salary being paid for officers on foreign service to cover leave allowances and pension. But it has been ruled in Section 811 of the same Regulations that officers transferred for service under the Egyptian Government contribute one-sixth of the assumed salary for pension only, as service in Egypt does not count towards Indian furlough. I think the same ruling might well be applied in the case of officers, like Lieutenants Harold and Cordeaux, who are temporarily lent to the Protectorate, and that a contribution of one-sixth, and not one-fourth, of the assumed pay should be paid for pension only. Officers whose services are so lent are under liberal rules as regards leave whilst serving in the Protectorate, and there seems no reason why the Protectorate

should contribute towards their leave under Indian rules, or why their service in the Protectorate should count towards such leave.

To revert to the question of the medical staff. In my despatch of the 28th June, 1898, I proposed to entertain two assistant surgeons on a salary of 150 rupees and local allowance of 30 rupees each. Subsequently, considering that this salary might not be sufficient inducement, I estimated in the Budget for the current year for two assistant surgeons on a salary of 200 rupees. It now appears that this salary will have to be increased to 300 rupees per mensem after seven years, and to 400 rupees after fourteen years.

We may presume that before these increments are reached we shall have a British medical officer in the Protectorate, when we shall not require an assistant surgeon at Berbera.

Zeyla will probably still require an assistant surgeon, owing to its distance from Berbera, or any locality which may be ultimately fixed upon as the head-quarters of the Administration. Setting aside the question of a British medical officer for the present I am prepared now to engage the services of one assistant surgeon and three hospital assistants on the terms proposed by the Government of India, as soon as they are available. The necessary provision is made in the Budget for the current year, the subordinate medical staff belonging to Aden, now serving on the coast, would then revert to Aden.

Military Assistant Surgeon Raymond, who was formerly at Zeyla and is now serving in the Bombay Presidency, is acclimatised to the coast; he gave satisfaction at Zeyla, and I should be glad to entertain his services again if he can be spared, and he is willing to accept the terms offered.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

Inclosure in No. 228*.

Government of India to Consul-General Sadler.

Sir,

Simla, September 15, 1899.

WITH reference to the inclosed copies of two letters from the Government of the Punjab,* I am directed to address you regarding the proposed employment of medical officers in the Somali Coast Protectorate.

2. The Government of India understand that from the 1st October, 1898, when the control of the Somali Coast Protectorate was transferred to Her Majesty's Government—

(1.) All pensions awarded from service exclusively in the Protectorate will be paid by Her Majesty's Government from the Somali Coast revenues;

(2.) Pensions to officers, who remain permanently in the Protectorate, and who have had previous service in India (as distinct from the Protectorate) will be divided between Her Majesty's Government and the Government of India in the proportions indicated in Article 517 of the Civil Service Regulations; and

(3.) Officers of the Indian services, lent for temporary service in the Protectorate, like Lieutenants Harold and Cordeaux, should pay the contributions for leave allowances and pension prescribed in the Civil Service Regulations for officers in foreign service of the first kind.

Information is now awaited as to whether Her Majesty's Government indorse these views.

3. If permanent pensionable service is guaranteed there will probably be no difficulty in engaging assistant surgeons for the Protectorate on 200 rupees a-month; but this amount would have to be increased after seven, and again after fourteen, years' service, i.e., the pay should be 200 rupees during the first seven years, 300 rupees during the next seven years, and 400 rupees after fourteen years' service. It is not, however, possible to obtain Mahomedan assistant surgeons.

4. Hospital assistants can be obtained from the Indian Army; but, in the opinion of the Government of India, the pay offered should be sufficient to attract volunteers

* Not inclosed.

and no higher. Double the Indian rates of pay would probably suffice.* I am to inquire whether you accept these suggestions. Abdul Wahab Sofi, who is civil hospital assistant of the third class, could be placed at your disposal provided he is willing to go on double his present pay of 25 rupees, with the prospect of drawing 70 rupees double pay of second grade, as soon as he passes the examination qualifying for promotion to the second class. Should he be unwilling to accept these terms, endeavour would be made to obtain a suitable volunteer from the army.

I have, &c.

(Signed) H. DALY,

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India.

* The rates are—

					Military Hospital Assistants.	Civil Hospital Assistants.
					Rupees.	Rupees.
3rd class	..	..	..	..	25	25
2nd „	..	..	..	..	40	35
1st „	..	..	..	..	60	55

Sénégalais par Congo Belge. Sommes installés définitivement embouchure Rivière Omo Lac Rodolph. Contrée ravissante."

Mr. Walford likewise informed me that his Company had just received 10 tons of ivory, and that further consignments are on the way, and that if his presence is needed it would give him great pleasure to call at the Foreign Office on the 16th instant, as about that date he proposed going to London. As far as I could gather from Mr. Walford's conversation last evening, I should say that he does not now place complete faith in Count Leontieff.

I have, &c.
(Signed) G. R. DE COURCY PERRY.

No. 225.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 9.)

(No. 214.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Cairo, December 9, 1899.

IN order to make communication possible with the Upper Nile by breaking up the sudd, a credit of 10,000*l.* has been given to the Governor-General of the Soudan.

I propose that the officer in command be instructed by the Sirdar to take note of the last paragraph but one of your despatch No. 109 of the 2nd August, 1898 (to which please refer).

Since the date of this despatch the situation has been much altered; and about 100 miles north of Lado there is now a Belgian post.

Do you desire any addition to proposed instructions?

No. 229.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 11.)

(No. 202.)

My Lord,

Cairo, December 1, 1899.

I HAVE been in communication with Lord Kitchener on the subject of the parties now engaged in surveying the Abyssinian frontier.

I am informed that Lieutenant Gwynne's party has gone to Rosaires.

It is reported that the Sobat is closed. Under these circumstances, Major Austin, who is in command of the southern party, was of opinion that, owing to want of supplies in the country through which he would have to travel, he might be obliged to strike into Abyssinia and to go through the Kaffa territory. It is, however, believed that the Emperor Menelek would view with great jealousy the visit of any Europeans to this country. Both Lord Kitchener and myself are, therefore, of opinion, that it would be undesirable to adopt the course proposed by Major Austin. He has accordingly been instructed to go to Nasser, to survey as far as he can, and to return to Nasser should provisions fail, but on no account to go to Kaffa.

I trust that these measures will meet with your Lordship's approval.

I have informed Captain Harrington of this decision.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CROMER.

No. 230.

Lord Currie to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 11.)

(No. 221.)

My Lord,

Rome, December 6, 1899.

WITH reference to my telegram No. 105 of the 27th ultimo respecting the settlement of the Abyssinian and Soudanese frontier, I have the honour to report to your Lordship that three interviews have taken place between the Marquis Visconti-Venosta, Sir Rennell Rodd, and myself, at the second of which Signor Martini, the Governor of Erythrea, was present.

I have now the honour to inclose a Memorandum drawn up at the Italian

Foreign Office, which gives the substance of the understanding at which we have arrived.

In accordance with this understanding, I have to-day sent to M. Visconti-Venosta a note (of which a copy is inclosed), in the terms of your Lordship's despatch No. 127 of the 8th September.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CURRIE.

Inclosure 1 in No. 230.

Memorandum.

LES pourparlers de ces jours ayant abouti à une entente, il y a lieu maintenant de la finir d'une manière formelle; ce qui pourrait se faire au moyen d'un échange de notes entre l'Ambassade de Sa Majesté Britannique et le Ministère Royal des Affaires Étrangères.

L'Ambassade remettrait, avec sa note, au Ministère Royal, la carte reproduisant la frontière projetée entre l'Éthiopie et le Soudan. En faisant remarquer que cette frontière s'écarte, sur quelques points, du tracé des Protocoles du 24 Mars et 15 Avril, 1891, l'Ambassade exprimerait le désir de connaître, avant de s'engager envers Ménélik, les vues du Gouvernement Italien à ce sujet. La note de l'Ambassade ferait en outre ressortir que, le tracé de la frontière devant, d'après la proposition faite par Ménélik au Capitaine Harrington, s'arrêter à Todluc, où cesse le territoire Éthiopien, il y a lieu de compléter ce tracé en procédant entre l'Érythrée et le Soudan, d'après la convenance mutuelle, à un arrangement spécial.

Le Ministère Royal des Affaires Étrangères répondrait par deux notes. Par l'une de ces notes le Gouvernement du Roi déclarerait ne pas objecter à la frontière projetée entre l'Abyssinie et le Soudan; de sorte que la démarcation établie par les Protocoles du 14 Mars et 15 Avril, 1891, serait modifiée d'après cette nouvelle frontière. Par l'autre note, le Gouvernement du Roi se déclarerait prêt à s'entendre avec le Gouvernement de la Reine, en vue de compléter, par une délimitation entre l'Érythrée et le Soudan, la frontière Soudanaise que la négociation Anglo-Abyssinienne ne peut fixer que jusqu'à Todluc, et proposerait que cette délimitation soit confiée aux Gouverneurs respectifs de l'Érythrée et du Soudan.

L'Ambassade pourrait, par une dernière note, accepter pour la délimitation entre l'Érythrée et le Soudan la méthode suggérée par le Gouvernement du Roi.

Inclosure 2 in No. 230.

Lord Currie to the Marquis Visconti-Venosta.

M. le Ministre,

Rome, December 6, 1899.

YOUR Excellency is aware that discussions have recently taken place between Her Majesty's Agent in Abyssinia and the Emperor Menelek in regard to the settlement of the frontiers of Abyssinia with the Soudan.

The Italian Ambassador in London has more than once expressed the hope of his Government that they may be made acquainted with the nature of the proposals made by the Emperor Menelek on the subject, and this request is one with which Her Majesty's Government have every wish to comply, and have only deferred doing so until a map had been prepared showing the nature of the proposals which have been made by the Emperor, and which will serve as a basis for the frontier to be eventually agreed upon.

I have now the honour, by order of my Government, to transmit to your Excellency a copy of this map, which, besides defining the exact nature of the proposals in question, shows the line agreed upon in the Protocol of 1891.

Your Excellency will observe that the frontier-line starts on the north from a point assumed to be on the boundary between Erythrea and the Emperor Menelek's dominions, and that in the proposal submitted to Her Majesty's Government the northern portion of the boundary has been drawn to the east of the line laid down by the Protocol of the 15th April, 1891, though, on the other hand, to the south of Famaka, the boundary includes in Abyssinian territory a considerable portion of the sphere assigned to Egypt by the Protocol of the 24th March, 1891.

I am accordingly instructed by the Marquess of Salisbury to invite your Excellency's observations on the proposed frontier, and I am to state that no definite answer has been returned as yet to the Emperor Menelek, and that Her Majesty's Government are desirous of learning the views of the Italian Government before coming to an agreement with Abyssinia.

It would, moreover, in the opinion of Her Majesty's Government, be desirable that an arrangement should be made with your Excellency for the settlement, in accordance with mutual convenience, of the frontier-line between the Soudan and Erythrea from Todluc, where the Abyssinian frontier ends.

I have, &c.
(Signed) CURRIE.

No. 231.

Sir F. Plunkett to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 11.)

(No. 177. Africa.)

My Lord,

Brussels, December 10, 1899.

I HAVE now since some time noticed that the Congolese papers published in Brussels are more than usually sparing of news from the Independent State, but I have seen one short statement that Captain Chaltin is making good progress with his reinforcements towards Lado Redjaf, and I have no doubt that the so-called commercial expedition under M. de Backer is making equally good progress towards the Nile.

I had occasion a few days ago to hear that a Swedish officer, lately returned from serving at Lado Redjaf, reported that all was well there when he left, and that the Congolese felt themselves now quite safe there from any possible danger.

I have, &c.
(Signed) F. R. PLUNKETT.

No. 232.

India Office to Foreign Office.—(Received December 14.)

THE Under-Secretary of State for India presents his compliments to the Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and, by direction of Lord George Hamilton, forwards herewith, for the information of the Secretary of State, a letter from the Political Resident at Aden, dated the 27th November, and inclosure, regarding the trade in arms between East Africa and Muscat and the Mahri ports.

It is requested that this document, which is sent in original, may be returned to this Office when done with.

India Office, December 13, 1899.

Inclosure in No. 232.

Brigadier-General Creagh to Government of Bombay.

(Confidential.)

Sir,

Aden, November 27, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to report, for the information of the Government, the substance of an interview I had this day with the Consul-General for Italy at Zanzibar who is here on a visit. Captain Botte, of the Italian cruiser "Stafella," was present at the interview.

After the usual exchange of compliments the Consul-General mentioned that there existed a large trade in arms from Muscat, and a smaller one from the Mahri ports. He did not seem to clearly understand whether the trade was carried on to the Italian or English Somali Coast ports. I told him that Muscat was not within my jurisdiction but that the Mahri ports were, and that I would inquire into the matter, though I had at present no reason to suppose that such a trade existed. He repeated that such was his information, and that the arms all started from Jibuti whence they were also

exported to Arabia. I replied the latter might be so, and added that every care was taken by me to prevent their being landed. He then referred to the movements of the Mullah in Somaliland and asked me for information, and I afforded him such as I had. He then remarked that the Somalis were gradually obtaining arms, and that steps should be taken to prevent their doing so. I informed him that Somaliland was no longer under this Residency, and recommended him to communicate with the Consul-General on the Coast and offered him a passage to Berbera and back in the "Minto" which proceeds to the Coast on the 1st proximo. He expressed his thanks and said he would probably avail himself of my offer, if he did not go in the cruiser "Governolo" which was at his disposal. He inquired if the Consul-General had a war-ship permanently placed at his disposal for the suppression of the arms traffic, and I replied that he had not, but that he could get the cruiser from here when necessary. At the same time I pointed out how impossible it was to stop the trade solely by action at sea, and in this view the Consul-General for Italy concurred, and he further remarked that until the French stopped the export from Jibuti, the efforts of the British and his own Governments in this direction were futile. Confidentially, and as a personal expression of my views, I concurred in this statement.

The interview then terminated.

I have, &c.
(Signed) O'M. CREAGH.

No. 233.

Foreign Office to Consul-General Sadler.

(No. 120.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 14, 1899.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 91 of the 23rd ultimo, reporting that you had requested the Resident at Aden to withdraw the British officer and extra detachment of native infantry recently stationed at Berbera.

His Lordship approves of your action in this matter.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 234.

Foreign Office to Consul-General Sadler.

(No. 121.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 15, 1899.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 87 of the 10th ultimo, reporting on the situation in the Dolbahanta and the measures adopted by you in dealing with deputations from the refractory tribes.

Your action, as reported in this despatch, is approved by Her Majesty's Government.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 235.

Deputy Commissioner Ternan to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 18.)

(No. 246.)

My Lord,

Port Alice, October 10, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to forward copy of a correspondence which I have to-day received from the Officer Commanding the Nile District relative to an unauthorized reconnaissance down the Nile, which is apparently being undertaken by Lieutenant Gage, in conjunction with Congo Free State troops.

I am not aware to what orders of Lieutenant-Colonel Martyr Lieutenant Gage refers, but in any case the latter must be well aware that no such orders can hold good after Lieutenant-Colonel Martyr relinquished command of the Nile District.

I am writing to the Officer Commanding Nile Military District that Lieutenant Gage's action is entirely irregular, unnecessary, and contrary to my wishes, and that Lieutenant Gage and the troops with him are to be recalled, if possible, at once.

Dr. Milne, as Senior Medical Officer of the Nile District, was entirely wrong, as he must be aware, in leaving his district without authority, and his so doing is most indefensible.

I propose to treat both these officers as regards pay as absent without leave, with a view to preventing a recurrence of unauthorized escapades of this kind.

I will report to your Lordship immediately further information is received concerning the movements of Lieutenant Gage and Dr. Milne.

Dr. Milne will be replaced in medical charge of the Nile District by Dr. Walker, and on the return of the former he will revert to the rank of Medical Officer, Fort Berkeley.

I have, &c.
(Signed) TREVOR TERNAN.

Inclosure 1 in No. 235.

Lieutenant Gage to Captain Radcliffe.

Sir,

Fort Berkeley, September 9, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to report that, acting on the instructions left here by Lieutenant-Colonel Martyr, D.S.O., I am leaving here this day, in company with Commandant Henry [?], commanding the Congo State troops on the Nile, to endeavour, conjointly with him, to overcome the obstacles barring the passage of the Nile to Khartoum.

He has informed me that he has reliable information which leads him to suppose that this can be successfully effected, and has therefore suggested to me that we should undertake the task together. On these, to my mind, very strong grounds, I consider it my duty, knowing how important it is that the route should be opened, to acquiesce in this proposal. I am therefore leaving Sergeant F. Osborne in temporary command during my absence, with full instructions as to daily routine, &c.

He will reply to all ordinary correspondence as far as he is able.

I am taking 1 sergeant, 1 corporal, and 10 men with me, with 80 rounds per man.

Trusting my action in this matter will meet with your approval, I have, &c.

(Signed) MORETON F. GAGE, *Lieutenant,*
Uganda Rifles.

P.S.—1. Commandant Henry has just informed me that he has been as far as Shambe, where he found a French post established consisting of a captain, 1 lieutenant, 1 sous-officier, and 40 soldiers. They contemplate, however, evacuating this post when possible.

2. Dr. A. D. Milne is accompanying this reconnaissance. I have not given any orders to him one way or the other, as I understand he is not under the orders of the Officer Commanding Station.

3. I regret extremely that I have not been able to ask your permission to carry out this reconnaissance, but Commandant Henry only arrived to-day, and he tells me there must be no delay, for the river is constantly changing, and may become impassable at Shambe at any moment.

I am therefore taking Colonel Martyr's instructions, which I hope to forward with my Report as sufficient authority.

M. F. G.

Minute.

The Senior Staff Officer, Uganda Rifles, Kampala :

Forwarded for the information of the Commandant. I have no knowledge of any special instructions left by Lieutenant-Colonel Martyr, D.S.O., but presume, as they appear to have been effective beyond the date of Colonel Martyr's handing over

the command of the Nile District, that they have been submitted to and approved by the Commandant.

Should this not be the case, I should be glad to know what action the Commandant wishes taken. It was my intention to proceed via Lamogi after the next mail from head-quarters arrived here. I am now, however, proceeding direct to Afuddu by the steel boat expected back to-day. From there I shall proceed at once to Fort Berkeley.

Lieutenant Gage has not handed over the command of his company to Captain Dugmore, and makes no mention of the date on which he may return.

(Signed) C. DELMÉ RADCLIFFE, *Captain, Uganda Rifles, Commanding Nile Military District.*

Wadelai, September 29, 1899.

Inclosure 2 in No. 235.

Dr. Milne to the Acting Principal Medical Officer, Kampala.

Sir,

Fort Berkeley, September 9, 1899.

AS I am going off on the expedition starting from Fort Berkeley to-morrow to try and open up the route to Khartoum, I have to point out that my estimates for the Nile District will be delayed in being made up, and will not be forwarded as soon as I intended. I have been waiting to see Captain Delmé Radcliffe to confer with him about hospitals, &c., and it is possible this may delay the meeting still longer.

I have, &c.
(Signed) A. D. MILNE.

No. 236.

Consul-General Sadler to Mr. Hopwood.—(Received December 18.)

Dear Mr. Hopwood,

Berbera, November 25, 1899.

I INCLOSE, unofficially, copy of an interesting note I have received from Mr. Gerolimato.

This was received with the correspondence with which I dealt in my despatch No. 92 of the 23rd instant.

The French are certain to have misrepresented the object of our expedition into the interior, and they are not likely to have lost the opportunity of trying to make capital out of the Transvaal war.

Yours very truly,
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

I have no further information regarding Leontieff and the incident of the flags. We shall hear more about the movements of this 6,000 towards the Ogaden. It all points, as I have previously reported, to an effective occupation of, at least, the Western Ogaden.

J. H. S.

Inclosure in No. 236.

Mr. Gerolimato to Consul-General Sadler.

My dear Sir,

Harrar, November 7, 1899.

IT is probable, I think, that our object in moving into the interior has been misrepresented to the King; but you know the Abyssinians are of bad faith, and my private opinion is they will now occupy the Ogaden permanently, and we shall have more trouble with them: for that I am sorry that the expedition has been postponed just at present. Menelek's proposition was only made to get the necessary time to prepare himself. The proof is the fact that the postponement of our expedition has had no effect on their preparations; on the contrary, they are making more preparations, as the Frenchmen have told them we have no more troops now owing to the

war in the Transvaal. I believe it would have a very good impression bringing to Hargaisa some 500 or 1,000 troops, to prove to them that we have troops disposable at all times. The 6,000 men for the Ogaden left Addis Abbaba some days ago. They will perhaps pass through Harrar, as Dejj Berato is expecting them here.

From the translation of the letter sent me by Garasmatch Bante you will see that he now pretends that some camels have been looted by our tribes from the Ogaden tribes. You see my reply. I am telling him that the Ogaden tribes want to counter-balance our claim, although I know this is Garasmatch Bante's own claim. Four days ago there arrived here two of our Akils, by name Jusuf Farih, of the Ayal Samanter Abdillah, and Ali Ismail Hursi, of the Sheikhdone Ahmed Abdillah. Garasmatch Bante gave them the Abyssinian Schama, shirts, clothes, and money, and afterwards they came to me, asking for clothes and money, saying they are British subjects. These two men were with the Abyssinians in the Ogaden when they, the Abyssinians, looted more than 1,000 camels.

About the desire of Garasmatch Bante to cross the frontier, I think it is better not to allow that, as we shall afterwards have a good deal to do with them. They make razzias and loots as always, and our interest is to avoid all that. I am also writing to Captain Harrington about all this. I hope he is now *en route* for Harrar.

Yours faithfully,
(Signed) J. GEROLIMATO.

N.B.—Just now, by telephone, a friend in Addis Abbaba informs me that Leontieff, who has returned to Addis Abbaba, found British flags on the north-east of Lake Rudolf. He took them out and replaced them by Abyssinian flags. The friend who gives me this news is a very honest man, and I have confidence in him.

J. G.

No. 237.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 18.)

(No. 94. Confidential.)

My Lord,

Berbera, December 2, 1899.

IT is reported by some of the Myjertein arrived from their country that about one and a-half months ago Mahomed Abu Bakr Pasha sent a buggalow from Djibouti with rifles and ammunition along the coast to the east of our Protectorate.

The buggalow first touched at Bandar Kasim, where 15 rifles and some ammunition was bought by a brother of the Sultan of the Myjertein. It then proceeded to Ras Alula, in the Italian Protectorate, and commenced selling arms and ammunition to the natives. This was stopped by the Sultan Othman Mahmood, who bought up the whole consignment, said to be, including the 15 rifles sold at Bandar Kasim, 400 rifles and 40,000 rounds of ammunition, for which he is said to have paid between 9,000 and 10,000 rupees.

I have not heard of any connection between Sultan Othman Mahmood and the Dolbahanta, but it is difficult to conceive what the Sultan can want with such a large number of arms, and their presence on the coast is most undesirable, as they could easily find their way thence to the Dolbahanta by land.

I have been unable to ascertain the name of the buggalow and Nakhuda conveying these arms. The pilot of the buggalow was one Ahmed Hassan *alias* Urbeita, a Myjertein of the Abdul Rahman tribe.

Mahomed Abu Bakr Pasha is a son of the Abu Bakr Pasha who was formerly Governor of Zeyla under the Egyptians. He is well known to us, and is now trading at Djibouti, where he is said to act occasionally as Agent to the Abyssinians.

I have informed the Vice-Consul for Italy at Aden and the Political Resident.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER.

No. 238.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 18.)

(No. 206.)

My Lord,

Cairo, December 7, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to report to your Lordship that after consultation with the Governor-General of the Soudan and Sir William Garstin, it has been decided to open a credit of 10,000*l.* for the work of cutting through the sudd in the Upper Nile.

The object of the contemplated operations is twofold. In the first place it is hoped that it will be found possible to open the riverway to direct communication with Uganda, and in the second place valuable information will be gained, which will complete the studies of the Nile waterflow in the interests of Egyptian irrigation.

Of this credit of 10,000*l.*, the sum of about 1,000*l.* will be required for the purchase of material, while the remaining 9,000*l.* will be devoted to the pay and maintenance of the Dervish prisoners, who will be employed upon the work.

I have urged upon the Governor-General the necessity for securing the services of an efficient doctor to look after the escort and the workmen in regions where fever is prevalent during a great part of the year.

I have, &c.

(Signed) CROMER.

No. 239.

Foreign Office to the Law Officers of the Crown.

Gentlemen,

Foreign Office, December 18, 1899.

I HAVE the honour, by direction of the Marquess of Salisbury, to state that the draft Order in Council for the Somaliland Protectorate, which formed the subject of your Report of the 18th September last, received the approval of the Queen in Council on the 7th October.

Lord Salisbury's attention has, however, been drawn to the fact that the Somaliland Order in Council of 1889, which, owing to certain practical difficulties, was never brought into force, has not been expressly repealed by the recently passed Order of 1899. Copies of both Orders are inclosed herewith.*

Although it is unquestionable that the Order of 1889 has no operation, the necessary directions for putting it into force never having been given by the Secretary of State, it appears possible that misunderstanding and inconvenience may arise if it be maintained on the list of effective Orders in Council.

Lord Salisbury understands that the removal of the Order in question from that list can only be effected by repeal, and I am accordingly to transmit the accompanying draft of an Order in Council which has been framed to meet the case.

It has been thought advisable to take advantage of the opportunity afforded by the repeal of the Somali Order in Council to repeal at the same time "The Brunei Order in Council, 1890." This Order was passed under a misapprehension as to the numbers of British subjects affected by it, but it has never been brought into force by the means provided in Articles 116 (3) and 117.

Sir Charles Mitchell, the Governor of the Straits Settlements, when he visited Brunei in 1896 in his capacity of High Commissioner and Consul-General for the Sultan's territory, was empowered to exercise his discretion in bringing the Order into operation. He, however, reported that he had decided, after a very full consideration, not to complete the technical steps necessary to make it of force, and that he did not recommend that he should be directed to take such steps. Sir Charles stated, as his reasons for arriving at this decision, that the British subjects resident in Brunei were not of British birth; that the machinery necessary for bringing an appeal was altogether too cumbrous; and that the simpler system—which still obtains—of asking the intervention and assistance of Her Majesty's Consul was all that was really necessary.

It was at that time suggested by the Colonial Office that an Order in Council should be passed suspending the Order of 1890 until the Secretary of State should

* "The Somali Order in Council, 1889;" ditto, 1899.

instruct the Consul to exhibit it in his office at Brunei, but as the latter Order had never come into force, Lord Salisbury considered that the better course would be to repeal the Order on the first favourable opportunity which occurred for this being done, without thereby drawing attention to the delay which had occurred in bringing it into force.

The draft Order for the repeal of the Somaliland Order in Council of 1889 has accordingly been drawn so as to include in its provisions the repeal of the Brunei Order in Council of 1890.

I am to inclose, for convenience of reference, a copy of "The Brunei Order in Council, 1890,"* together with a copy of the paragraph in Sir C. Mitchell's Report which deals with the question.†

I am to request that you will take the draft "Somali and Brunei (Repeal) Order in Council, 1899," into your consideration, and favour Lord Salisbury with your opinion whether it can properly be submitted to Her Majesty in Council in its present form, and, if not, that you will indicate such amendments or modifications as you may consider necessary or desirable.

I have, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

Inclosure in No. 239.

Draft Order in Council.

SOMALI AND BRUNEL.

"*The Somali and Brunei (Repeal) Order in Council, 1900.*"

WHEREAS by Treaty, capitulation, grant, usage, sufferance, and other lawful means, Her Majesty the Queen has power and jurisdiction in the territories comprised within the limits of "The Somali Order in Council, 1889," and "The Brunei Order in Council, 1890";

And whereas, since the passing of the said Orders, other provision has been made for the exercise of Her Majesty's jurisdiction in the said territories respectively, and it is expedient that the said Orders should be expressly repealed:

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, by virtue and in exercise of the powers in this behalf by "The Foreign Jurisdiction Act, 1890," or otherwise in Her Majesty vested, is pleased, by and with the advice of her Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, as follows:—

1. "The Somali Order in Council, 1889," and "The Brunei Order in Council, 1890," are hereby repealed as from the passing of this Order.
2. This Order may be cited as "The Somali and Brunei (Repeal) Order in Council, 1900."

No. 240.

Captain Harrington to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 21.)

(No. 66.)

My Lord,

Harrar, November 27, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to report that a force said to be 6,000 strong under the command of Dejasmach Biratou, nephew of Ras Makunan, has to-day left Harrar with the avowed object of operating against the Somali Mullah should he be in Abyssinian territory, and punishing the Rer Ali, Rer Haroon, and Rer Ughaz divisions of the Ogaden tribe.

Dejasmach Biratou, whom I saw this morning before he started, informed me that he awaits further orders from the King as to the route which he is to follow; he could give me no indication as to the extent of ground which his operations were likely to cover, beyond saying that he expected to descend the Webi Shebeyle.

In view of the uncertainty of his movements, I thought it well to warn him against

* "The Brunei Order in Council, 1890."

† Sir C. Mitchell, No. 4, November 16, 1896 (Extract).

crossing the British Somali frontier, or interfering with any British Somali tribes who may be pasturing their flocks on Abyssinian territory, according to Treaty rights, and I supplied him with a map on which the frontier is clearly marked. He assured me that he would be most careful on these points.

As he could not tell me how far south he might eventually go, I thought it advisable to furnish him with a letter, of which I have the honour to inclose a copy, addressed to the Commander of any British post or party with whom he might come in contact.

I am sending copies of this despatch to Her Majesty's Consul-General on the Somali Coast, and to Her Majesty's Commissioner and Consul-General in the East Africa Protectorate.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. L. HARRINGTON.

Inclosure in No. 240.

Captain Harrington to the Commander of any British Post or Party into whose hands this may come.

Sir, *Harrar, November 27, 1899.*

DEJASMATCH BERATOU, to whom this letter is given, is the Commander of an Abyssinian punitive expedition into the Ogaden country. Should he meet any British party he has been instructed to enter into friendly relations with it; and I have the honour to request that he may be treated in a friendly manner and every effort made to prevent complications.

I have, &c.
(Signed) J. L. HARRINGTON.

Given to Dejasmatch Beratou at Harrar, the 27th November, 1899.

No 241.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Viscount Cromer.

(No. 263.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 21, 1899.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 202 of the 1st instant on the subject of the parties now engaged in surveying the Abyssinian frontier.

I approve the instructions which your Lordship reports having been given to Major Austin.

I am, &c.
(Signed) SALISBURY.

No. 242.

Foreign Office to Consul-General Sadler.

(No. 124.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 21, 1899.

I AM directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 92 of the 23rd ultimo, inclosing correspondence with the British Consular Agent at Harrar, from which it appears that the Acting Governor of Harrar has announced the probability of Abyssinian troops crossing the frontier of the Protectorate in pursuit of Ogaden tribes.

Lord Salisbury concurs in your approval of Mr. Gerolimato's reply to the Acting Governor of Harrar. Mr. Harrington will be authorized to call the attention of the Emperor Menelek to this matter, should he think it desirable to do so.

I am, &c.
(Signed) T. H. SANDERSON.

No. 240*.

Consul-General Sadler to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 21.)

(Telegraphic.) P.

Berbera, December 21, 1899.

THE detachment of native infantry can be dispensed with at Zeyla early in February. May I arrange to withdraw it?

No. 243.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Lord Currie.

(No. 159.)

My Lord,

Foreign Office, December 22, 1899.

I HAVE received your despatch No. 221 of the 6th instant, reporting the result of the interviews which your Excellency and Sir Rennell Rodd have had with the Marquis Visconti-Venosta respecting the settlement of the Abyssinian and Soudanese frontier.

I approve the course which it is proposed to follow in this matter, as well as the terms of the note which your Excellency has addressed to the Marquis Visconti-Venosta on the subject.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

SALISBURY.

No. 244.

Intelligence Division to Foreign Office.—(Received December 23.)

THE Director of Military Intelligence presents his compliments to the Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and with reference to Mr. de Courcy Perry's despatch No. 4, Africa, Confidential, dated 8th December, would wish to draw particular attention to Count Leontieff's telegram, which discloses facts of considerable importance at the present time when the southern and western boundaries of Abyssinia are under consideration.

Passing over the statement that his subordinates are at the present time engaged in an exploring expedition within the British sphere of influence, and that he proposes to send half his Senegalese home through Belgian Congo, and therefore across a large tract within our sphere, Leontieff reports himself as definitely settled on Lake Rudolf, at a point now under dispute, being within our sphere according to the Agreement with Italy of 1891, but within the Abyssinian boundary as claimed recently by Menelek. Bearing in mind that Menelek recently suggested a settlement of the boundary based on effective occupation, he can hardly fail to urge the present position of his concessionary Leontieff in substantiating his claim to the north of Lake Rudolf.

18, Queen Anne's Gate, S.W.,
December 21, 1899.

No. 245.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 25.)

(No. 8. Africa.)

My Lord,

Cairo, December 11, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatches Nos. 77 and 78 of the 6th and 7th ultimo, which I have submitted to Lord Kitchener. His observations on the Belgian expeditions in the Bahr-el-Ghazal Province are contained in the letter, copy of which is inclosed herewith.

Lord Kitchener appears to be under the impression that the arrangements under the Agreement of the 12th May, 1894, by which the Sovereign of the Congo State was authorized conditionally to occupy the Bahr-el-Ghazal Province, and the left bank of the Nile up to Fashoda, have been terminated by His Majesty's renunciation of these rights subsequently published in the Agreement concluded by His Majesty with the French Government.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

CROMER.

Inclosure in No. 245.

Lord Kitchener to Viscount Cromer.

My Lord,

Omdurman, December 6, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to return the despatches forwarded with your Lordship's No. 22 on the subject of an armed Belgian expedition from the Congo State penetrating into the Bahr-el-Ghazal Province of the Soudan, and to state that I deprecate any such action on the part of the Belgian authorities, and trust that the aggressive policy thus demonstrated by them may not be persisted in.

Should trading Companies of Belgians or others desire to establish themselves in the Bahr-el-Ghazal Province under the Soudan jurisdiction and laws, there would, of course, be no objection to such a course; but permission should be asked, and a detailed statement should be given of what it is wished to exploit; otherwise, it will be impossible to deal with such cases, and public security in the district may be disturbed.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

KITCHENER OF KHARTOUM.

No. 246.

Viscount Cromer to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 25.)

(No. 211.)

My Lord,

Cairo, December 11, 1899.

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's despatch No. 75, of the 3rd ultimo, forwarding copies of correspondence which has passed between the Foreign Office and the Intelligence Division of the War Office respecting a proposed expedition from Uganda to the Bahr-el-Ghazal.

This correspondence has been submitted to Lord Kitchener, who makes the following observations:—

He does not consider that "in the present circumstances an expedition from Uganda merely to report on what is going on in the Bahr-el-Ghazal Province would repay the outlay. If the sudd in the Bahr Zeraf or Bahr Jebel is cleared, it will be easy to send a force from Shambeh to look after that country; in the meantime, when El Obeid is occupied, Shakka will no doubt form a post from which the Bahr-el-Ghazal can be reached."

With these observations of Lord Kitchener's I have the honour to agree.

I have, &c.

(Signed)

CROMER.

No. 247.

The Marquess of Salisbury to Mr. Harrington.

(No. 49.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 27, 1899.

YOU will have received from Her Majesty's Consul-General on the Somali Coast a copy of his despatch No. 92 of the 23rd ultimo, inclosing correspondence with M. Gerolimato, from which it appears that the Acting Governor of Harrar announced the probability of Abyssinian troops crossing the frontier of the British Protectorate in pursuit of Ogaden tribes.

You are authorized to draw the Emperor Menelek's attention to this matter if you should think it desirable to do so, and to request that strict orders may be given that the Abyssinian forces shall not cross the British frontier.

I am, &c.

(Signed)

SALISBURY.

The Law Officers of the Crown to the Marquess of Salisbury.—(Received December 29.)

My Lord,

Royal Courts of Justice, December 29, 1899.

WE were honoured with your Lordship's commands signified in Mr. Villiers' letter of the 18th instant, stating that the draft Order in Council for the Somaliland Protectorate, which formed the subject of our Report of the 18th September last, had received the approval of the Queen in Council on the 7th October.

That your Lordship's attention had, however, been drawn to the fact that the Somaliland Order in Council of 1889, which, owing to certain practical difficulties, had never been brought into force, had not been expressly repealed by the recently passed Order of 1899;

That, although it was unquestionable that the Order of 1889 had no operation, the necessary directions for putting it into force never having been given by the Secretary of State, it appeared possible that misunderstanding and inconvenience might arise if it were maintained on the list of effective Orders in Council;

That your Lordship understood that the removal of the Order in question from that list could only be effected by repeal, and that Mr. Villiers was accordingly to transmit to us the accompanying draft of an Order in Council which had been framed to meet the case;

That it had been thought advisable to take advantage of the opportunity afforded by the repeal of the Somali Order in Council to repeal at the same time "The Brunei Order in Council, 1890;" that this Order was passed under a misapprehension as to the numbers of British subjects affected by it, but it had never been brought into force by the means provided in Articles 116 (3) and 117;

That Sir Charles Mitchell, the Governor of the Straits Settlements, when he visited Brunei in 1896 in his capacity of High Commissioner and Consul-General for the Sultan's territory, was empowered to exercise his discretion in bringing the Order into operation; that he, however, reported that he had decided, after a very careful consideration, not to complete the technical steps necessary to make it of force, and that he did not recommend that he should be directed to take such steps. That Sir Charles stated as his reasons for arriving at this decision, that the British subjects residing in Brunei were not of British birth; that the machinery necessary for bringing an appeal was altogether too cumorous and that the simpler system, which still obtained, of asking the intervention and assistance of Her Majesty's Consul was all that was really necessary;

That it was at that time suggested by the Colonial Office that an Order in Council should be passed suspending the Order of 1890 until the Secretary of State should instruct the Consul to exhibit it in his office at Brunei; but as the latter Order had never come into force, your Lordship had considered that the better course would be to repeal the Order on the first favourable opportunity which occurred for this being done without thereby drawing attention to the delay which had occurred in bringing it into force;

That the draft Order for the repeal of the Somaliland Order in Council of 1889 had accordingly been drawn so as to include in its provisions the repeal of the Brunei Order in Council of 1890;

That Mr. Villiers was to inclose, for convenience of reference, a copy of "The Brunei Order in Council, 1890," together with a copy of the paragraph in Sir C. Mitchell's Report which dealt with the question.

Finally, Mr. Villiers was to request that we would take the draft "Somali and Brunei (Repeal) Order in Council, 1899," into our consideration, and favour your Lordship with our opinion whether it could properly be submitted to Her Majesty in Council in its present form, and if not, that we would indicate such amendments or modifications as we might consider necessary or desirable.

In obedience to your Lordship's commands we have the honour to

Report—

That in our opinion the accompanying draft Order in Council, as initialled by us, may properly be submitted to the Queen in Council for Her Majesty's approval.

We have, &c.

(Signed)

RICHARD E. WEBSTER.
ROBERT B. FINLAY.

Inclosure in No. 248.

Draft Order in Council.

SOMALI AND BRUNEI.

"The Somali and Brunei (Repeal) Order in Council, 1900."

WHEREAS by Treaty, capitulation, grant, usage, sufferance, and other lawful means, Her Majesty the Queen has power and jurisdiction in the territories comprised within the limits of "The Somali Order in Council, 1889," and "The Brunei Order in Council, 1890";

And whereas, since the passing of the said Orders, other provision has been made for the exercise of Her Majesty's jurisdiction in the said territories respectively, and it is expedient that the said Orders should be expressly repealed:

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, by virtue and in exercise of the powers in this behalf by "The Foreign Jurisdiction Act, 1890," or otherwise in Her Majesty vested, is pleased by and with the advice of Her Privy Council, to order, and it is hereby ordered, as follows:—

1. "The Somali Order in Council, 1889," and "The Brunei Order in Council, 1890," are hereby repealed as from the passing of this Order.

2. This Order may be cited as "The Somali and Brunei (Repeal) Order in Council, 1900."

R. E. W.
R. B. F.

No. 249.

Foreign Office to Sir H. Johnston.

(No. 278. Confidential.)

Sir,

Foreign Office, December 29, 1899.

WITH reference to Colonel Ternan's despatches No. 227 and 232 of the 23rd and 27th September, I am directed by the Marquess of Salisbury to transmit, for your information, copies of the papers, marked in the margin,* relating to the question of the present validity of the lease of the Bahr-el-Ghazal country to the King of the Belgians as Sovereign of the Congo Free State.

No special agreement has been come to on the subject since Lord Salisbury's despatch to Sir F. Plunkett, No. 46, of the 25th April last; and I am directed by his Lordship to instruct you to confine your action in the matter for the present to watching and reporting the movements of the King's forces within the sphere comprised in the lease.

I am, &c.

(Signed) FRANCIS BERTIE.

o

* To Sir F. Plunkett, No. 46, April 25; Inclosure in ditto, Lord Salisbury's Memorandum, April 7, 1899.